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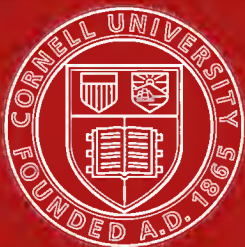
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VICENTE AÑES PINÇON₅

VICENTE AÑES PINÇON₅

BY

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M.A., AUTHOR OF 'PROBLEMATICAL FEATURES IN MAPS DESIGNED
BY MERCATOR AND DESCeliers,' 'PEDRALUAREZ CABRAL'

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ERRATA

- P. 3, line 24. Instead of 'ship' read 'caravels'.
- P. 20, line 5 Delete '—Cape Saint Roque—'.
- P. 42, line 31. Instead of 'hand' read 'hands'.
- P. 50, line 21. Instead of 'months' read 'months'.
- P. 59, line 7. Instead of 'Chevaliers' read 'Caballeros'.
- P. 61, line 5. Instead of 'cavaliers' read 'caballeros'.

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

*I*N case any of his readers should blame the writer for allowing this book to be printed whilst his country is at war, he informs them that it was projected before the war began and reminds them that printing and publication are final not initial stages in the production of a book, that there are many people who cannot fight and who require to be fed and clothed and that assistance is best offered to these by giving them that work to do which they are accustomed and best able to do.

VICENTE AÑES PINÇON or Vicente Yañez Pinzon was a native of Palos which is now known as Palos de la Frontiera and in his day was sometimes called Palos de Moguer. It is a small town situated on the left bank of the Rio Tinto about five miles from the sea in the county or condado of Niebla in Andalusia. Vicente Añes and his brothers Martin Alonso and Francisco Martin were 'pilotos' who corresponded rather to first mates than to pilots for the 'piloto' had to accompany the vessel during the whole voyage and superintend its navigation from beginning to end. There was yet a fourth Pinçon, Diego Martin, a brother of the other three.

During the lawsuit between Diego Colon and the Crown, Vicente Añes stated in evidence in 1513 that he was above fifty years of age.¹ He was therefore born in or prior to the year 1463. We know nothing of his early career prior to his voyage with Columbus but there can be little doubt that he was engaged in maritime pursuits from an early age. He probably accompanied his brother Martin Alonso in some subordinate capacity. We learn from the testimony of witnesses at the lawsuit already mentioned that Martin Alonso Pinçon was regarded as an excellent captain, a good seaman and gifted in many ways. He had made voyages to Guinea and the Canary Islands and coasting voyages in the North Atlantic and in the Mediterranean as far as Naples. He had prospered so well that he not only owned the ship which he commanded but also another or two others and

¹ Navarrete, III. p. 547.

employed them in a lucrative trade. No braver captain was anywhere to be found than Martin Alonso whether as fighter or as seaman and he was therefore, as well as on account of his honourable character, held in high respect by all his neighbours.¹ The name of his wife was Maria Alvarez. Francisco Martin was also married and had a daughter named Marina Alonso.

Three of the brothers,—Martin Alonso, Francisco Martin and Vicente Añes,—first came into prominence in connection with the first voyage of Columbus to the West Indies. But it is only in 1495 that we meet with Vicente Añes as captain of a ship and as having a licence to make a voyage on his own account. In 1492 when, after long negotiations, Columbus obtained a royal commission authorizing him to lead a small squadron by a western route, Martin Alonso and Francisco Martin were selected to command two of the caravels. Vicente Añes sailed with his brother Francisco Martin apparently as a second or supernumerary captain.²

The caravels weighed anchor on the 3rd of August, 1492, and a course was shaped for the Canary Islands. On the fourth day there was an accident. The rudder of the *Pinta*, of which Martin Alonso Pinçon was captain, broke and a temporary rudder had to take its place. Martin Alonso suspected that the owners of the caravel, Gomez Rascon and Cristoval Quintero, who had shipped as seamen, had contrived the damage to the rudder because they were dissatisfied with the bargain made with them for the caravel, the cost of chartering which was, by royal command, to be borne by the inhabitants of Palos. It may well have been that Rascon had a hand in the matter for the Rascones seem to have been no friends to the Pinzones. In 1505 Vicente Añes was obliged to bring an action against one of them, Alvaro Alonso Rascon, for breach of contract. He failed to

¹ Navarrete, III. pp. 229, 231, 251, 252, 256.

² According to the evidence of Hernan Perez Mateos, Francisco Martin was sailing-master of the *Pinta* and Vicente Añes captain of the *Niña*. Duro, *Colón y Pinzón*, p. 263.

provide a vessel which he had agreed to provide and Vicente Añes was thus prevented from making an intended voyage.¹

At Grand Canary, the *Pinta* was repaired and square substituted for lateen sails on foremast and mainmast. They proceeded thence to Gomara which was reached on the 2nd of September. There wood and water, meat and fish and other provisions were taken on board. The caravels set sail again on the 6th of the same month.

After passing through the Sargasso Sea great trouble commenced. The floating seaweed (*Fucus natans*) was not, as might have been expected, an indication of the proximity of land and the goal appeared as far off as ever. Not only the sailors but also the three captains lost confidence in their leader and began to suspect that he knew as little of the course to be steered as they did themselves. They even threatened to throw him overboard unless he gave the order to put the ships about. Columbus soothed them with kind words and promised that if they did not make land within three days he would allow them to do exactly as they pleased. The three brothers in particular were moved by the éloquence of Columbus and agreed to continue the voyage but only for three days longer. This was reasonable enough on their part because the stock of provisions and that of water had now run so low that they would only be sufficient for the return voyage if they turned back at once. It was therefore absolutely necessary either to return or to find a port where they could re-victual the ship. At two o'clock on the morning of the 11th of October a sailor on the flag-ship, the *Maria-galante*, called out 'Lumbre! Tierra!' but was told by Colon's steward, Salcedo, that the admiral had already seen the light. A sailor on the *Pinta*, named Rodrigo de Triana, was the first to sight land,—a small island,—at daybreak. He was therefore entitled to the pension of ten thousand maravedis which Queen Isabella had offered to whomsoever should first sight land, for a light is not land nor even

¹ Appendix L.

necessarily upon land. But Columbus invariably thought of himself and his own relatives above everyone else when a gain of money was involved, for, if he was in some respects a quixotic visionary or even a simple-minded child, he yet always had an eye to the accumulation of wealth. He therefore applied for the reward and received it and the poor sailor had to go without it. It may be noted here that Oviedo quotes the opinion of some to the effect that Columbus would have turned back from his enterprise had he not been urged by the Pinçons to go forward and that it was owing to the insistency of the three brothers that the voyage was brought to a happy termination.¹

Columbus landed accompanied by Rodrigo de Escovedo, his secretary, Rodrigo Sanchez and Martin Alonso Pinçon and others. Natives were seen and conversed with by signs and were understood to say that the island was called Guanahani and that another island called Cuba lay to the southward. Guanahani, which is now generally identified with Watling Island, was named San Salvador. Other islands were soon in sight and the collective name *Islas Blancas* was bestowed upon them because of the white sand of the beaches or perhaps because of the abundant guano. But Columbus called them *Las Princesas* as being the first land seen. The islands of which Guanahani is one appear on maps of the period as the *Lucayos* and they are now called the *Bahamas*.

No stay was made at Guanahani; the vessels set sail on the afternoon of their arrival; six natives were taken on board to act as guides and a course was steered to the westward where there was a second island larger than Guanahani to which the name *Santa Maria de la Concepcion* was given. It is identified with *Rum Cay*. Two of the Guanahani natives here escaped from the *Niña*. From *Rum Cay* Columbus sailed still westward to a third island which he named after the King, *Fernandina*; it is identified with *Long Island*; on this island he landed. A fourth island lay to the

¹ Oviedo, lib. II. cap. v.

eastward of Fernandina of which Columbus heard from his native guides who called it Samoete. It was reached on the 19th of October and received the name Isabella after the Queen. It is identified with Crooked Island. A landing was effected on it and many natives were seen. They brought cotton twist and spears for the purpose of barter but none of the gold which Columbus, probably misunderstanding his guides, had expected to find. They told him of countries called Cuba and Bohio and to Cuba Columbus proceeded on the 24th of October, passing near the Islas de Arenas, now known as The Ragged Isles. On the 28th of the month the vessels anchored in the mouth of a river which was named the San Salvador.

The discoverers had reached Cuba. The admiral landed and inquired the way to Japan to which very natural inquiry the natives replied by indicating the direction in which Hayti lay, a district in which was called Cibao in the native tongue, whilst the name by which Columbus knew Japan was Cipangu.

From this river the vessels coasted westward and touched at many points as they went. Martin Alonso reported to the admiral that one of the Guanahani natives on the *Pinta* had informed him that a city called Cuba was about four days' journey distant and that the king of it was at war with another king called Cami and he suggested, perhaps sarcastically, perhaps seriously, that probably Cami was identical with the Grand Khan. From a harbour called Baracoa, twelve leagues west of Punta de Maise, Columbus set sail for Hayti and in entering a port on the north coast of that island, which he named Puerto Real, the *Maria-galante* touched bottom and sprang a leak. This port was in the territory of a cacique named Guacanagari, who was greatly pleased with trifling presents such as hawks' bells, pins, needles and glass beads of various colours and who brought articles of food and other things to the Spaniards.

The admiral resolved to leave thirty-eight men in Hayti or Española to form the nucleus of a settlement and caused a stockade

to be erected for their protection. Martin Alonso Pinçon was strongly opposed to this proceeding for he considered that the colonists would be exposed to great danger of an attack by the natives and would be unable to keep themselves in food. Columbus was greatly offended and the matter ended in an open rupture. Martin Alonso departed with the *Pinta* and went to another harbour about twenty leagues distant to the east of Puerto Real. He was even afraid that Columbus might order his arrest for insubordination. But the other two Pinzones effected a reconciliation and persuaded Columbus to send a letter by Indian messengers to Martin Alonso extending his forgiveness and appointing a rendezvous at a harbour named Isabela about eighteen leagues east of Puerto Real. The port in which Martin Alonso had taken refuge was named Puerto de Gracia in commemoration of the pardon granted by Columbus.

From Isabela the two caravels now re-united proceeded to Puerto de Plata and thence to the eastern peninsula of Española which was called Samana by the natives. At this place there was an encounter with natives two of whom were wounded and the others put to flight. There were then ten Indian captives on the caravels,—four from Guanahani and six from Cuba but one jumped overboard subsequently and was drowned. Anchors were weighed on the 16th of January, 1493, and a course laid N.E. by E. After encountering very tempestuous weather during which the *Niña*, in which Columbus now sailed, was almost given up for lost, land was sighted on the 13th of February. This was Santa Maria in the Azores. Half of the crew went ashore to return thanks for their deliverance but they were arrested by the Portuguese governor and only set at liberty in the evening after the admiral's royal commission had been exhibited. After leaving Santa Maria another gale was encountered and the caravels were separated. The *Niña* reached the Tagus on the 4th of March; the *Pinta* arrived at Bayona in Galicia. At Lisbon there was again trouble with the Portuguese. Bartholomeu Diaz, who was the

first to round the Cape of Good Hope and was captain of a man-of-war, came on board and ordered Columbus ashore. But Columbus refused to leave the vessel or to allow the Master to leave it and Diaz was at last satisfied with the sight of the royal commission. A messenger arrived from the Portuguese king with an invitation to Columbus to come to court. It was accepted and Columbus had a friendly interview with João II. and only left the Tagus on the 13th of March. By a strange coincidence, the *Niña* and the *Pinta* arrived at Palos on the same day,—the 15th of March, 1493. Martin Alonso was still afraid of the wrath of the admiral and went ashore secretly and remained in concealment until Columbus had started for Seville, after which he returned to his home in the Calle de Nuestra Señora de la Rabida at Palos. But he had been ill for some time and died a few days afterwards. He had been perfectly right in thinking that the colonists would be exposed to great danger. They were all massacred a few months later.

On the 20th of May, 1506, the bright heroic soul of Columbus was extinguished or, say rather, exalted to a holier sphere. There is only one authentic portrait of him—that which is at Como; a good photograph of it hangs in one of the little bare-walled rooms of the house which was Domenico Colombo's at Genoa. The high forehead and the dreamy liquid eyes of the old man remind one of the English poet William Blake. And indeed just as Blake is the visionary among poets so Columbus is the visionary among discoverers. The discovery of the New World was the practical result of his visions and the Book of Thel was in a manner a practical result also. The prosaic minds of the latter part of the sixteenth century were not satisfied with the portrait and required that Columbus should be represented as a coarse rough sailor and they had such a representation of him in the portrait which appears in Thevet's *Vies des Hommes Illustres*.¹

¹ Paris, 1584.

After his return from Española, Vicente Añes was granted a royal licence for a voyage to the East (al Levante). The preamble to the Agreement states that it relates to two caravels commanded by Vicente Yañez Pinzon, residing in Moguer, one of which was named the *Vicente Yañez* and was of forty-seven *toneles* and the other the *Fraila* of fifty *toneles*. They are stated to have sailed in December, 1495, although the Agreement was only to have effect from the 1st of January, 1496. Nothing more is known of this voyage than what is contained in the Agreement.¹

The succeeding years are among the most obscure in the life of our navigator. But an indication of the activity exercised in them is to be found in two short paragraphs of the History of the Indies by Oviedo which must refer to this period. Oviedo writes:—‘In Book XXI., chapter xxviii., I said that the province of the Cape and Gulf of Honduras and also the Cape of Higueras were discovered by the pilots Vicente Yañez and Johan de Solis and Pedro de Ledesma and also I said in Book XXI. that the Point or Cape of Honduras is in 17° 30’ on this side of the equator and the Cape of Higueras is eleven degrees and a half from the equator and I have mentioned in detail in the same place that which lies between these two capes.’² For ‘xxviii.’ we must read ‘viii.’ for it is there that we find:—‘I continue from the point at which I left off in the preceding chapter, namely, from the Gulf of Higueras [the discovery of] which some attribute to the Admiral Don Cristoval Colon, saying that he discovered it. And it is not so, for the pilots Vicente Yañez Pinzon and Johan Diaz de Solis and Pedro de Ledesma discovered it before Vicente Yañez discovered the River Marañon or Solis discovered the Rio de la Plata.’

Vicente Añes returned to Spain with Columbus on the 15th of March, 1493, and sailed on the voyage in which he discovered the River Marañon on the 13th of November, 1499. Therefore the

¹ Appendix A.

² Oviedo, XXXI. cap. i.

voyage in which he discovered the Gulf and Cape of Higueras was made between these two dates.

The voyage which commenced in December, 1495, further curtails the period during which this voyage must have taken place to the years from 1496 to 1499 inclusively. And there is in fine an indication of the date of it to be found in the history of Gomara who, writing of the last voyage of Columbus,—that to Honduras in 1502,—adds :—‘ But some say that three years earlier Vicente Yañez Pinçon and Juan Diaz de Solis, who were very great discoverers, had been there.’¹ Apparently then their visit was in 1499 but probably the voyage began in 1498.

Another link of evidence may perhaps be found in the testimony given by Pedro de Ledesma at the lawsuit between Diego Colon and the Crown,² for that testimony evidently does not relate to the voyage made to Central America in 1506 in which the coast beyond and to the west and north of the Island of Guanaja was not visited by Vicente Añes and in which it is not alleged that he was accompanied by Pedro de Ledesma. By comparing the data furnished by Oviedo with those supplied by Pedro de Ledesma we find that Vicente Añes, Juan Diaz de Solis and the aforesaid witness made a voyage at a date which is not stated to the Cape of Higueras in 11° 30' N. lat.,—a position not far from the site of the modern Greytown and beyond the Spanish province of Veragua which lay on the confines of Panama and Costa Rica and which was subsequently visited by Columbus in 1503. Proceeding westward from the Cape of Higueras, Vicente Añes reached the Bay of Honduras and must have passed a cape in 17° 30' N. lat. called the Cape of Honduras and a point named Punta de Las Mugeris and an island named Isla de las Amaçonas. This point and island were situated between the Island of Cozumel and Cape Catoche and were therefore in about 21° N. lat. The names which they received from their discoverers were conferred

¹ Gomara, cap. 55. (Madrid, 1749, p. 44.)

² Appendix O. p. 77.

because the women at those places were archers and fought with bows and arrows as the men did. Rounding Cape Catoche, Vicente Añes continued to follow the coast until he almost reached 23° 30' N. lat.

Nothing further is known. But inasmuch as some authors have identified this voyage with a voyage described by Vespucci, it is necessary here to digress for a moment in order to examine this statement.

On the 4th of September, 1504, Vespucci wrote a letter to a distinguished friend, Piero Soderini, then Gonfaloniere of Florence, describing four voyages to the New World. The letter was printed at Florence in Italian in 1505 in an edition which is of extreme rarity. One copy exists in the Grenville Collection in the British Museum, another is in the Capponi Library in Florence; a third in the Library of Princeton University; a fourth, which was in the Palatina Library in Florence, is lost or missing.

No less an authority than Muñoz, we are told,¹ was of opinion that Vespucci could not, as he alleges, have taken part in the first of the voyages described in this letter because he (Muñoz) found 'records of expenses incurred in fitting out the vessels' employed in the second and third voyages of Columbus bearing dates in 1497 and 1498 at which Vespucci (who was the purveyor to Columbus), asserts in his letter that he was absent from Spain and engaged in this voyage. It seems almost incredible that Vespucci should have willingly sought to impose upon a correspondent who knew him personally and who occupied an important public position. Moreover there were many men in Seville and elsewhere who could at once have denounced Vespucci as an impostor when the letter was published in 1505 had the first portion of it contained a tissue of falsehoods. I would therefore prefer to believe that an agent of Vespucci made use of his name rather than that the first portion of the letter to Soderini was pure fiction.

¹ C. R. Markham, *Life of Christopher Columbus*, p. 344.

We are however still far from arriving at the conclusion that the first voyage of Vespucci was identical with the voyage of Vicente Añes, Juan Diaz de Solis and Pedro de Ledesma. Neither Oviedo nor Pedro de Ledesma in his evidence states that Vespucci participated in that voyage. Vespucci himself gives no name of any of his companions. He relates in his letter that he left Cadiz on the 10th of May, 1497, and returned to it on the 14th of October, 1498. The letter is tedious in the extreme, full of prolix and puerile descriptions of native manners and customs and vague and untechnical in its statements regarding distances run and directions steered.

Disregarding all subsidiary matter, we learn that the four vessels of the expedition made the land in 16° N. lat. at 74 degrees west of the Canary Islands,—probably therefore in the southern part of the Gulf of Campeachy.

Vespucci, as well as Oviedo, remarks that the Indian women had bows and arrows and used them. He further relates that the vessels anchored at many places on the coast, always proceeding in a direction north-west or approximately so. The natives, he says, call themselves 'Carabi' and their country is called 'Lariab' or, as the Latin version of the letter has it, 'Parias.' There is evidently a misprint here or perhaps there are two misprints. The correct reading is possibly Caria or it may even be Paria, for Vespucci may have given to that name a vague and general signification as well as to the name Caribs which is perhaps what is meant by 'Carabi.' The final north-westerly run of the ships was according to all the early texts 870 leagues, which must surely be another misprint—870 instead of 87. Having reached this point it was decided to turn back towards Spain, that is to say to steer an easterly or north-easterly course. The vessels were first beached and repaired—an operation which required thirty-seven days. After leaving this beach the vessels sailed with a wind between east and north-east for seven days until they reached islands the natives of which were called 'Iti.'

These people were hostile and attacked the Spaniards but forty-seven Spaniards put them to flight, killed many and took 240 prisoners with the loss of only one man. The expedition then sailed for Spain. It is impossible to determine the geographical position of the beach or port from which the vessels sailed to the island whence the captives were taken and therefore the island cannot be identified. But as it was one of numerous islands, some of which were inhabited and others not, as it was seven days' sail from the mainland and as the name of the inhabitants was believed to be 'Iti', it seems not improbable that the island was Hayti. The warlike character of the inhabitants corresponds with that of the natives of the south-western district of Española at the time of the discovery of that island when Caonabo was cacique in that district.

Shortly after his return from the voyage to Honduras, Vicente Añes projected another voyage to the New World and, at his own expense and at the expense of two of his nephews, Arias Perez Pinçon and Diego Ferrandez Pinçon, sons of Diego Martin Pinçon, four caravels were equipped. They sailed from Palos on the 13th of November and from the Rio de Saltes, now known as the Canal del Padre Santo, early in December, 1499. Some of the officers who sailed with Vicente Añes gave evidence at the lawsuit. Diégo Hernandez Colmenero was in command of one of the caravels, Arias Perez was in command of another. Juan de Umbria and Juan de Jerez were pilots; Garcia Hernandez was physician (*físico*). Their course was to the Cape Verde Islands where a provision of fresh meat was taken on board. They sailed from Fogo, which lies to the west of Santiago in 14° 53' N. lat., on or about the 6th of January, 1500, and steered S.S.W. until they lost sight of the pole-star,—a circumstance which caused no little consternation amongst the sailors who had been accustomed to trust chiefly to a conspicuous star for guidance and who expected to see in the southern sky another conspicuous star in a position corresponding to that of the pole-star

in the northern sky. They accounted for the absence of such a star by the theory that some prominence of the earth hid it from view. Even their leader was perplexed by the novel aspect of the heavens for he now crossed the line for the first time. He was in fact the first navigator to the New World who crossed the equator. To add to their dread they encountered a violent gale. They had not chosen a favourable time of year in which to cross the Atlantic in caravels.

Land was discovered on the 20th of January, 1500, and a cape received from Vicente Añes the name of 'Cabo Santa Maria de la Consolacion,' and a point near it was named 'Rostro-hermoso.' Pinçon landed in the ship's boat, taking with him four clerks, one from each vessel, as witnesses of the act of taking possession of the newly discovered territory in the name and by authority of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella. He also carved their names and the date on the trunks of trees and on rocks. Vicente Añes was justified in doing this because the pilots made the distance from the Cape Verde Islands to be 500 leagues and, at that time, according to the Treaty of Tordesillas, concluded on the 7th of June, 1494, the line of demarcation between the Spanish and Portuguese possessions ran north and south 370 leagues west of the westmost of these islands.

Early next morning, forty armed Spaniards landed and were met by about thirty natives who showed no inclination to trade but, on the contrary, being well armed with bows and arrows and spears, prepared to oppose the landing. In vain did the Spaniards attempt to appease them by treating them as children and exhibiting beads, mirrors and hawks' bells. The natives would have none of these things and the Spaniards finally retired to the ships without fighting for, as Gomara naively relates, the Indians were the taller men,—taller than tall Germans and with very long feet.¹

It appears from the evidence of Pedro Ramirez at the lawsuit²

¹ Gomara, cap. 85. (Madrid, 1749, p. 78.)

² Documentos inéditos, 2^{da} Serie, 8, p. 151.

that an attempt was made to proceed in a southerly direction but for some unexplained reason this attempt was abandoned and the vessels' prows were turned northwards so as to follow the coast towards Cape St. Roque. The course, according to the evidence given by Vicente Añes, was W. by N.W. There can be no doubt that Vicente Añes touched at many places between Cape St. Augustine and the Gulf of Paria for he spent nearly five months on the voyage between that cape and Haiti. Galvao mentions some of the localities where a landing was effected.¹ One of these was Cabo Primeiro in $5^{\circ} 30'$ S. lat. As Cabo Primeiro is fifty leagues from Cape St. Augustine, which is identified with the Cabo de Santa Maria de la Consolacion of Vicente Añes, it follows that the landfall was in about $8^{\circ} 21'$ S. lat. This accords approximately with the actual position of Cape St. Augustine, namely $8^{\circ} 20' 41''$ S. lat. From Cabo Primeiro the coast trends north-west so that cape may be identified with Cape St. Roque; it trends north-west for twenty leagues to Cabo de Placel in $4^{\circ} 30'$ S. lat., thence 85 leagues to the Angla de San Lucas in 3° S. lat., where another landing was effected. Another 120 leagues brings us to the Tierra de Humos or Fumos in $1^{\circ} 30'$ S. lat. through which the amended line of demarcation between Spanish and Portuguese territories passed. Oviedo makes the distance from the Tierra de Humos to the mouth of the Marañon 62 or 63 leagues. Finally Galvao makes mention of the Rio Doçe and of Paria as having been visited by Vicente Añes. Oviedo estimates the distance from Cape St. Augustine to the mouth of the Marañon at 358 leagues.² A landing which was effected near the mouth of a small river,—too shallow to admit of the ships entering it,—may have been at the locality named Angla de San Lucas. Many natives were seen on an adjacent hill and towards these a sailor was despatched with some of the same trinkets as on the previous occasion. He was well armed with sword and buckler. He threw a

¹ Galvao (Hakluyt Society), p. 95.

² Oviedo, XXI. cap. i.

hawk's bell to them ; they replied by throwing down a small gilded rod about two handbreadths long but when he stooped to pick it up they immediately resented the action and attacked him from behind. He was able to keep them at bay until assistance arrived from the boats. A fierce struggle ensued in which the natives had the advantage ; eight Spaniards were killed and several were wounded. So persistent was the attack that the Spaniards were pursued to their boats ; one boat was seized and set on fire. This result had been chiefly accomplished by means of dense volleys of arrows. But the fortune of war now turned in favour of the Spaniards who succeeded in killing many of the Indians by sword-cuts and spear-thrusts for they had no protection but the pelts which they wore.

Vicente Añes proceeded westward from this place for forty leagues and entered a tract of ocean where the water was fresh at a distance of thirty leagues from the coast. The pilot Juan de Umbria stated in his evidence at the lawsuit that the water was fresh twenty leagues at sea. They entered a river and ascended it for the distance of fifteen or twenty leagues. This was doubtless the Amazon or Marañon. Here they had experience of the tumult of waters occasioned by the current of a great river when it encounters the inflowing tide of the sea. 'As the ships lay at anchor,' writes Herrera, 'a fearful noise was made by the strong impact of the fresh water against the water of the sea coming to meet it and the ships were raised four fathoms and from this proceeded great danger.'¹ Many natives were seen at various points on the shore but no gold or pearls were seen and, as the Indians here appeared inoffensive, thirty-six of them were captured in order to be made slaves. The sailors also caught a monkey ('macaco'). The native name of the river or perhaps of the district was Mariataubal or Paricura.

Proceeding on their way, the voyagers reached a dangerous part of the coast to which they gave the name, Boca dos Leones. It

¹ Herrera, I. cap. 173. (Doc. inéd. LXIV. p. 450.)

was a bay in which were two reefs, one of which lay ahead of them and they almost ran aground before the breakers were observed by a sailor who had climbed to the masthead. The crews succeeded in wearing the ships round and the imminent danger was avoided.

Oviedo places a Rio de Vicente Pinzon 130 leagues east of the Rio Doçe.

Before the Gulf of Paria was reached the voyagers again entered a tract of sea where the water was fresh,—on this occasion at a distance of twenty-five or thirty leagues from the coast. This was because of a second great river,—doubtless the Orinoco.

Anton Hernandez Colmenero testified at the lawsuit that the voyagers were afraid to land in the Gulf of Paria because of the fatal encounter but they allowed some of the natives to come on board who knew enough Spanish to say 'Sal Capitan' by which they probably meant 'Salve, Capitan'. Pedro Ramirez testified that they landed on an island near the mainland and that they then continued their voyage so as to pass through the Boca del Dragon. Turning eastward, they sighted Tobago which they named Isla de Mayo. Thence their course lay to Guadeloupe, from Guadeloupe to San Juan or Puerto Rico, thence to Española or Hayti, which they reached on the 23rd of June, 1500, thence to Samana, which is identified with Attwood's Cay, Someto, identified with Crooked Island and Maguana or Mariguana. In the vicinity of Crooked Island misfortune overtook Vicente Añes and he lost two of the caravels on reefs which were then known as Los Ojos de la Babura. He was therefore compelled to return to Haiti to refit. After this was accomplished, he set sail for Spain with the two remaining caravels and arrived at Palos on the 30th of September, 1500. The cargo consisted of three thousand pounds (*libras*) of brazil-wood and sandalwood (*brasil i sandalo*), many canes of the valuable kind (perhaps sugarcane), much odoriferous gum (? copal),

the bark of certain trees resembling cinnamon, the carcase of an opossum which had died during the voyage and twenty surviving slaves.

The losses sustained by Vicente Añes in this voyage had painful consequences. On his return to Spain he was unable to pay his debts. Before setting out on his voyage he had bought a considerable quantity of goods on credit. Payment was now demanded but was not forthcoming. The creditors then, during his absence at Court, seized and sold certain property belonging to Vicente Añes and to his nephews Arias Perez and Diego Ferrandez. The uncle and nephews complained to the King, alleging that they had been shamefully overcharged for the goods,—even to the extent of fifty, eighty and one hundred per cent. above their value and they said that all their possessions would not suffice to pay at these values and that, in default, they would be sent to prison. They were willing, however, to pay what they could and begged for time to sell 350 quintals of brazil-wood which they had brought with them from the New World. They also begged that the goods might be valued and only a fair price exacted.¹ As there is no mention of their being sent to prison it may be supposed that a compromise was effected. Another act of injustice touched Vicente Añes even more acutely. His slave, a good linguist and invaluable to him, was taken by another creditor, named Diego Prieto, in the place of one who had been promised but who was not forthcoming.² As Vicente Añes offered to give Diego Prieto the value of a slave in money it is probable that this matter also was satisfactorily arranged. But these difficulties only impeded Pinçon for a brief period. The Spanish Sovereigns interested themselves in him and the losses he had sustained were made good. The manner in which this was done is characteristic of the times. By virtue of a royal decree dated the 15th of October, 1501, Vicente Añes was empowered to take 400 *cahices* (about 4800 bushels) of wheat which he might collect either

¹ Appendix B.

² Appendix C.

in Andalusia or in the diocese of Malaga and to sell the same for his own profit, provided only that the wheat was not sold to Moors nor to enemies of the King. This permission was given in order that he might have compensation for the losses he had sustained in the service of the king and queen and might be enabled to undertake the voyage which he then had in prospect in the same service.¹ Finally, Vicente Añes was appointed Captain and Governor of the coast and islands which he had discovered from the Cabo Maria de la Consolacion to the Rio Maria de la Mar Dulce.² He was also to receive one-sixth of the value of all minerals, pearls and precious stones and all other commodities whatsoever exported from that region and a sixth part of the money paid to the Crown for licences to explore it. These concessions however had to be taken advantage of within one year, which was to be reckoned from the date of signing the Agreement on the 5th of September, 1501, and, if Vicente Añes did not start upon his voyage to the coast which he had recently discovered within one year, the agreement was to be null and void. Amongst the published official documents relating to voyages undertaken by Vicente Añes I find none referring to this projected voyage but indications that it was actually undertaken are not lacking. It is however doubtful if it was commenced within the allotted time for Vicente Añes was still in Seville in September, 1502, when Rodrigo de Bastidas returned from Darien.³ Pietro Martyre has an account of a voyage in which Vicente Añes entered a fresh-water bay celebrated for the abundance of its fish and the multitude of its islands where Columbus had been previously.⁴ It lay to the east of Curiana and as Curiana lay a little to the west of Cumana it is probable that the fresh-water bay with the many islands⁵ was the most easterly portion of the Gulf of Paria where Columbus had been in 1498. The

¹ Appendix F. ² Appendix E. ³ Appendix O, p. 79.

⁴ De rebus oceanicis, II. vii, p. 185. (Coloniae, M D LXXIII.)

⁵ *i.e.* Islands formed by the numerous mouths of the River Orinoco.

waters of the Gulf are not quite fresh, but an enormous quantity of fresh water pours into it from the delta of the Orinoco. There were native villages all round the shores of the Gulf and the natives were found to be of a warlike disposition.¹ They had canoes hollowed out of one log which they called 'chicos' and, as soon as Vicente Añes anchored, several canoes approached and the caravels were assailed with arrows. The Spaniards however sheltered themselves within the hulls of the vessels where they were perfectly safe and replied to the assault by a few shots from their bombards which quickly dispersed the canoes and killed and wounded a number of the assailants. The headmen or chiefs, whom they called 'Chiaconos,' then sent ambassadors to sue for peace. No one on board understood a word of their language so that negotiations could only be carried on by means of signs. Pietro Martyre says that valuable gifts were offered to the Spaniards in token of the desire of the Indians for peace. The invaders received three thousand ounces of gold and above seventeen hundred pounds of an odoriferous gum resin which Pietro Martyre calls 'thus masculinus praestantissimus.' The natives also presented numerous peacocks and peahens or rather birds resembling them, (for the peacock is an Asiatic bird and Pietro Martyre says that they differed in colour from the peacock known in Spain ²) and hangings of gossampine or cotton-silk of divers colours ornamented at the purples with small gold bells like hawks' bells. The Spaniards also received many parrots of various colours which had been taught to speak. These natives wore outer garments of gossampine; those of the men were double, the plaits being stitched together with fine stitches, and these were their only armour. The material alluded to was probably prepared from the downy covering of the seeds of trees resembling the cotton-silk tree, not from the down of the cotton plant.

¹ Pietro Martyre's description of these natives and their gifts must, I think, be received *cum grano salis*.

² Apparently Pietro Martyre has translated 'pavo' by 'pavo'. But 'pavo' in Spanish means turkey. These birds were probably curassows.

East of the Gulf of Paria, Vicente Añes came to extensive inundated tracts of country and far-reaching stagnant water,—a condition of the coast which may have been the result of floods in the Orinoco. He continued to coast along eastwards until he reached a point in seven degrees south latitude—Cape Saint Roque¹—where the coast began to trend southwards. The natives there informed him that much gold was to be found beyond high mountains which lay to the southward but as he imagined that he had reached (for he did not know that he had already passed) the line of demarcation he went no further southward at that time. As a matter of fact, some of the Spanish captains paid little attention to the provisions of the Treaty of Tordesillas although they were strictly enjoined to do so in the instructions which they received. Vicente Añes did not return directly to Spain but went first to Española and there left some natives whom he had captured at the Gulf of Paria in order that they might be taught Spanish and that they might serve as interpreters in future expeditions. He was in Española when Columbus arrived there from Jamaica in July, 1504.² He sailed thence for Spain and begged from the King the appointment of Governor of the island of Puerto Rico.³ He had been the first to make known that gold was to be found in that island. The region of which he had previously been appointed Governor contained little gold and moreover had been in part assigned to Portugal.

Vicente Añes was in Palos in 1505 and in that year we find him in close relation with Amerigo Vespucci. 'On Saturday, the 17th of May, 1505,' writes the Treasurer of the Casa de Contratacion, 'were given and I paid to Pedro de Miranda of Seville 153 maravedis for going with a letter to Vicente Yañez Pinzon to the town of Palos and to Moguer, for it was necessary to consult Amerigo and the aforesaid Vicente Yañez concerning the squadron which is to be made ready by them by command of His Highness.' And again:—'Pedro de

¹ De rebus oceanicis, II. vii. ² Appendix O, p. 80. ³ De rebus oceanicis, II. viii.

Miranda of Seville was sent with letters to their Highnesses and to their Secretary, Gaspar de Gricio, concerning the consultation relating to the squadron which His Highness desires that Amerigo the Florentine and Vicente Yañez Pinzon should make ready, our Lord the King being at Segovia. . . . He went on Wednesday morning the fifth of June.¹ Columbus was also at Segovia.

On the 24th of March, 1505, Vicente Añes had been appointed Captain of a fortress which he was to construct in the island of San Juan de Puerto Rico² and on the 24th of April of the same year, he had been appointed Captain and Governor of that island.³ Apparently he held that appointment until 1509 in which year it was conferred upon Ponce de Leon. Evidence which proves that Vicente Añes assumed the duties of Governor of the island is contained in a memorial in which Martin Garcia de Salazar claims to be reinstated in the offices of Alcaide and Corregidor which had been bestowed upon him by Vicente Añes and of which he had been unjustly deprived after the death of Pinçon. The document is as follows:—

EL REY.

‘The President and Members of the Council of Our Lady the Queen and of my Council : Martin Garcia de Salazar, resident of the city of Burgos, has addressed a report to me stating that he has presented before this Council four letters in his favour which were written by Vicente Yañez Pinzon, his companion, conferring the offices of Corregidor and Alcaide and seven caballerías of land,⁴ in the island of Sant Juan, which is in the Indies, for the aforesaid Vicente Yañez discovered the aforesaid island and he and the aforesaid Martin Garcia turned out some herds in it and he states that he has been deprived of the aforesaid offices of Corregidor and Alcaide and

¹ Documentos inéditos, XXXIX. pp. 215 *et seq.* ² Appendix I. ³ Appendix J.

⁴ A caballeria is about 33 acres ± rood.

of the caballerias of land and that they have been taken from him unjustly and he begs and prays that I would graciously order that the bestowal of the aforesaid offices be confirmed and that they be restored to him and that the loss which he has sustained, owing to having been deprived of them, be made good and that I would order that a remedy according to law or according to my good pleasure be provided and I approved ; therefore I command you that, when you shall have summoned and heard the parties concerned, you shall administer justice concisely and without delay so that the parties shall have and obtain the same and you shall not act contrariwise hereto.

‘Given under our hand in the city of Brussels this six-and-twentieth day of November, in the year one thousand five hundred and sixteen.

‘Yo El Rey.—By command of the King. Pedro Ximenes. Signed by the Chancellor and by the Bishop of Badajoz and by D. Garcia.’¹

The expedition which was to be prepared by Vicente Añes and Amerigo Vespucci was finally authorised by King Ferdinand before the end of the year 1505. On the 11th of August of that year the King wrote to the officials of the Casa de Contratacion²:—‘With regard to what you say concerning the expenses and the salaries to be paid to Yañez Pinzon and Amerigo in respect of the squadron to the effect that each of them demands fifty thousand maravedis for outfit and articles necessary for the voyage and twelve thousand maravedis each for the maintenance of their households during each year in which they shall be engaged for this voyage and that they shall be kept in food during the time to be occupied in preparing the squadron, it appears to me that they demand what is reasonable and that it is right to do this, for they are good men and I have confidence in them [and believe] that they will do me great service in this voyage and, if it should please God that they return and accomplish

¹ Navarrete, III. p. 144.

² From Segovia where the King was from the month of May until October 6, 1505.

something of an advantageous kind, I will show them favour. Therefore arrange matters with them as is set forth in this letter.'¹

Las Casas mentions the voyage to which this letter of King Ferdinand alludes and a portion of the evidence of Vicente Añes may also relate to it.² Herrera assigns it to the year 1506.³ Las Casas says vaguely,—'After the Admiral had escaped from the isolation and troubles which he suffered in Jamaica and had returned to Castille, Juan Dias de Solis and Vicente Yañez Pinzon agreed together to go to make discoveries.'⁴ Columbus left Jamaica on the 28th of June, 1504, and reached Seville in November of that year. All the published documents relating to this expedition point to 1506 as the year of the departure from Spain. Pietro Martyre narrates that Pinçon and Solis fell in with land to the west of Cuba where the Admiral had been before.⁵ He alludes to the last voyage of Columbus in the years 1502, 1503 and 1504, in the course of which the Admiral visited the Gulf of Honduras and followed the eastern coast of Central America from the island of Guanaja to Cape Tiburon in the Gulf of Darien. Vicente Añes said in his evidence at the lawsuit that De Solis and he discovered all the land which had been discovered until that time from the island of Guanaja as far as the province of Camarona, following the coast towards the east as far as Chabaca (or Chahuaca) and Pintigron (or Pintigua). Pinçon further testified that they discovered a large bay to which they gave the name of Bahia de la Navidad, not the Bahia de la Navidad between Honduras and Yucatan for that bay is west of the Island of Guanaja but probably the Gulf of Honduras. Pinçon and De Solis wrote a letter to Ovando giving an account of this voyage.⁶

In 1508 preparations for another expedition on an extensive scale were in progress. Juan de la Cosa, Amerigo Vespucci, Juan

¹ Documentos inéditos, XXXI. p. 337.

² Herrera, Dec. I. lib. vi. cap. 17.

³ De rebus oceanicis, II. vii.

⁴ Documentos inéditos, 2da Serie, 7, p. 270.

⁵ Las Casas, lib. II. cap. xxxix.

⁶ Documentos inéditos, 2da Serie, 7, p. 203.

Diaz de Solis and Vicente Añes Pinçon were summoned to Court in February or March of that year and the two last-named Captains obtained permission from King Ferdinand to take two caravels across the Atlantic towards the North-West. They returned from Burgos, where the King then was, to Seville about the end of March, bringing with them a letter from the King to the Officers of the Casa de Contratacion de las Indias and a second list of articles to be obtained for the equipment of two vessels. Everything was to be in readiness for the voyage not later than the month of May. This memorandum was dated the 22nd of March and was succeeded on the following day by a formal Contract, the contracting parties being, on the one hand, the King, and on the other hand, the two captains. It was agreed that Juan Diaz de Solis was to determine the course to be followed and to communicate it to Vicente Añes and to the pilots and masters at the time of sailing. Detailed instructions follow regarding signals, such as showing a light from the ship commanded by De Solis, and respecting the territories of the King of Portugal and the capture of foreign vessels navigating in Hispano-American waters and barter with natives. It is distinctly stated in the Agreement that the main object of the voyage was to find a strait or passage which would enable vessels to pass from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean, for as yet the Pacific Ocean had not been discovered and it was not known that that vast ocean lay between the Indian Ocean and America.¹

Before the expedition sailed certain important appointments were made. It was considered necessary that Vespucci should remain at Seville with the duty of superintending the drafting of charts. He received the title of Pilot Major with a salary of fifty thousand maravedis annually which was afterwards increased to one hundred and twenty thousand maravedis and Juan Diaz de Solis and Vicente Añes Pinçon were appointed royal pilots at the same salary

¹ Appendix N.

as Vespucci. At the request of the Bishop of Palencia and the Commendador Lope de Conchillas, Pedro de Ledesma or Ledesma was engaged as a pilot on one of the vessels.

The expedition sailed from Seville to the Cape Verde Islands and shaped thence a course to Cape St. Augustine. Thence they coasted southwards, landing in various places and erecting crosses wherever they landed. They attained the relatively high latitude of about 40° S. without, it would appear, entering the Rio de la Plata, the discovery of which is generally attributed to Juan Diaz de Solis on the occasion of a later voyage in 1512 in which he was not accompanied by Vicente Añes Pinçon.¹ The exact date of their return is not known but it must have been prior to the 14th of November, 1509. There had been dissensions between the two commanders; the officials of the Casa de Contratacion de las Indias were greatly dissatisfied with the meagre results which had been obtained by the expedition. They were doubtless disappointed that an expedition which had been sent out with the express object of finding a strait had found no strait and they laid the blame upon De Solis who had had charge of the navigation whilst Vicente Añes had only been appointed to have charge on shore. The unfortunate De Solis was sentenced to be incarcerated in the state prison. De Solis made another voyage to the east coast of South America in 1512 and his last voyage was in 1515 and 1516; he was killed in the course of it by the natives of the banks of the River Plate.

The King wrote to Miguel de Passamonte, Treasurer-General of the Indies on the 14th of November, 1509, to the following effect:— ‘I have learnt that Vicente Yañez Pinzon and Juan Diaz de Solis were bringing certain interpreters from the country which they went to discover and it is said that the Comendador Major who was our Governor² would not allow them to bring them; I therefore command

¹ Herrera, Dec. I. cap. ix.

² Niculas de Ovando, Commendador de Laredo of the Order of Alcantara.

you to send me speedily a full and complete statement of the reason on account of which the aforesaid Comendador Major would not allow them to bring the interpreters and what objects Vicente Yañez Pinçon and Diaz de Solis brought on their return from their voyage.'¹ And at the same date the King wrote to the officers of the Casa de Contratacion, 'After I had written the letter which accompanies this one, I received your letter of the 27th of October, together with the packages which came from the Indies and with the other manuscripts which you sent and I acknowledge the diligence and care which you have exercised in all and in the matter of the guanine which Vicente Yañez Pinzon and Juan de Solis brought from their voyage. It is well that you have had it melted and as I wish to see what the aforesaid guanine and objects which they brought resemble, I command you to send me some specimens speedily of what has not yet been melted.'²

In 1514 Vicente Añes Pinçon, dying, rested from his labours. Oviedo expresses his regret in these few felicitously chosen words. 'He had the reputation of being the most skilful of the pilots of the King and of that time. I knew him and liked him; he was as fair-spoken as any seafaring man I have ever seen and one of those who best understand their art.'³ The opinion of Gomara is also worthy of being quoted. 'The Pinçones', he writes, 'were very great discoverers and went many times on voyages of discovery and navigated much in these parts. . . . I believe that he [Amerigo Vespucci] navigated much but yet it is known that Vicente Yañez Pinçon and Juan Diez de Solis navigated more than he when they went to discover the Indies.'⁴

In the *Diccionario Enciclopédico Hispano-Americano* it is stated that ten years after the last voyage of Vicente Yañez his family was ennobled and obtained armorial bearings. Letters-patent granting

¹ Documentos inéditos, XXXI. pp. 516-7.

² Documentos inéditos, XXXI. pp. 506-7.

³ Oviedo, lib. XXIV. cap. ii.

⁴ Gomara, cap. 88. (Madrid, 1749, p. 80.)

armorial bearings to the Pinçones were found in a Nobiliario belonging to Don Vicente Pinzon, Military Governor of Cartagena and were copied by Don Fulgencio Garcia, the Secretary of his Military Council, on the 25th of August, 1797. No mention of the ennoblement of the family is to be found in several Spanish Nobiliarios which have been consulted. In the *Nobleza de Andaluzia* of Gonçalo Argote de Molina (1588), the family is not mentioned nor in the *Nobiliario de los Reinos y Señorías de España* of F. Pferrer (1857-66) nor yet in the *Diccionario historico-genealogico y heraldico de las familias ilustres de la monarquia español* (1860). In the *Nobiliario de Conquistadores de India* edited by Antonio Paz y Melia (1892) however, we find the letters-patent (pp. 3-5) and they are also to be found in the *Viages* of Navarrete, III. pp. 145-6 and in *Documentos inéditos*, XXXIX, pp. 510 *et seq.* The explanation may be found herein,—that the Pinçones were raised to the rank of ‘Caballeros’ but not to that of Nobles. The Letters-patent run thus:—‘Don Carlos, by the grace of God, King of the Romans, ever august Emperor: Doña Juana, his Mother and the aforesaid Don Carlos by the same grace of God, King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, the Two Sicilies, Jerusalem, Navarre, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar, the Canary Islands and the Indies, the Islands and Continent of the Oceanic Sea, Archduke and Archduchess of Austria, Duke and Duchess of Burgundy and Brabant, Count and Countess of Barcelona, Flanders and Tyrol, Seigniors of Biscaya and of Molina, Duke and Duchess of Athens and of Neopatria, Count and Countess of Barcelona and Sardinia, Marquis and Marchioness of Oristan and of Goziano, etc.

‘Inasmuch as it was made known to us by you Juan Rodriguez Mafra, our pilot and Gines Murio, our Chaplain and Diego Martin Pinzon and Alvaro Alfonso Nortes and Juan Pinzon and Alonso Gonzalez, residents in and natives of the town of Palos that Martin

Alonso Pinzon and Vicente Yañez Pinzon and Andres Gonzalez Pinzon and Diego de Lepe and Miguel Alonso, captains, your grandfathers and fathers and uncles and brothers, went upon a certain voyage and journey and in a certain fleet which their Catholic Majesties, our Grandparents of glorious memory (may they attain everlasting glory) commanded to be sent upon a certain discovery, of which fleet it is said that Don Cristóbal Colón went as Captain-General and Admiral in order to discover the island of Española and other islands and [that they] afterwards [went] upon a certain other discovery, namely to the Costa de las Perlas, by virtue of a certain Agreement which was concluded with them and with some of you by the Very Reverend Father in Christ Don Juan Rodriguez de Fonseca, Archbishop of Rosano, Bishop of Burgos, Member of our Council, by order of their aforesaid Catholic Majesties, in which Agreement they offered to equip three ships at their own expense in order to go upon a certain discovery to *Tierra Firme* and [inasmuch as it was made known to us] that, in order to equip those ships, they sold and disposed of their landed properties and with these ships, it is said, discovered six hundred leagues of continental land and the great river and Brazil and returned with some Indians of the aforesaid *Tierra Firme* and with gold and pearls and inasmuch as we have been assured that the aforesaid three captains of your lineage and many more of your relatives died in the course of all these conquests and were killed in our service, the latter by poisoned arrows ("flecha con yerba") which the Carib Indians of the aforesaid country shot at them and the former as the result of the aforesaid voyages and, besides this, that they served us on other occasions and helped to place all [that territory] under the yoke and dominion of our Royal Crown, risking and endangering their lives many times as you also have done, by which means We and our Royal Crown have been much benefitted, therefore, in acknowledgement of the aforesaid services and in order

that your aforesaid relatives and you yourselves may be held in everlasting remembrance and that you and your descendants and theirs may be held in greater honour, We, by these Presents, do show you favour and We desire that you may have and bear as your lawful armorial bearings three caravels *al natural* on the sea and from each of them a hand shall extend pointing to the land first seen and discovered upon an escutcheon similar to this one [Here follows the figure of the escutcheon.] and as orle of the aforesaid escutcheon you shall bear anchors and hearts. And We grant you the aforesaid escutcheon as your escutcheon recognised as such and duly assigned to you and it is our desire and in accordance with our good pleasure that you and your children and descendants and those of the aforesaid captains, your relatives, who were present at the aforesaid discovery and their children and descendants shall have and keep these armorial bearings as your and as their lawful armorial bearings and as such that you and they may use them on your *reposterios* and in your houses—in those of each of your aforesaid children and descendants and relatives to the third degree and also their children and descendants in such other places as shall seem good to you. And by these our letters-patent and the copy of them, signed by a notary public, We command the Most Illustrious the Infantes, our very dear and much beloved sons and brothers and the Infantes, Dukes, Marquises, etc., etc., etc., etc. Given under our hand at Barcelona, this twenty-third day of the month of September in the year one thousand five hundred and nineteen of our Lord Jesus Christ—El Rey—I, Francisco de los Cobos, Secretary of their Imperial Catholic Majesties, have had this written by their command.'

Another attempt to restore the descendants of the Pinçones to a condition of affluence and to make good the losses of their progenitors in the King's service was made by Juan de Vitoria. Señor Duro has rendered a service to biographical literature by publishing two memorials addressed by Juan de Vitoria probably to Philip II. in the

name of and as the representative of the descendants of the brothers of Vicente Añes. They are undated and are contained in the portfolio of the Archivo de Indias relating to the year 1578. The first memorial is to the following effect :—‘ Very Potent Sire, I, Juan de Vitoria, in the name of the Pinzones residing in the towns of Palos and Moguer, hereby affirm that in the name of my clients I presented a petition to His Majesty praying him to be pleased to show favour to them in recognition of the services which their fathers and progenitors rendered in the discovery of the Indies at their own charges, whence it arose that my clients are now so poor that they have not sufficient to keep themselves in food because their fathers and progenitors spent all their revenues and patrimonies on the squadrons which they equipped and on the new discovery which they made as I have proved to your Highness by the records and papers which I have presented and when His Majesty was in Seville, Marina Alonso, la Pinzona, daughter of Francisco Martin Pinzon, one of the aforesaid discoverers, adducing the services of their fathers and predecessors, begged him to show favour to her and to the others who were in necessitous circumstances, seeing that until the present they have not been remunerated nor received any thanks, whereupon His Majesty commanded them to repair to this Court, because, as he was here, he would show them favour, in consequence of which, I, in their name, presented memorials to His Majesty, reminding him of that which I have mentioned and he always commanded me to wait and promised to show them favour and he sent the aforesaid memorials to your most illustrious President¹ in order that he might show me favour ; therefore I pray and beg that Your Highness will be pleased to command favour to be shown to me, in order that abundant favour may be shown to my aforesaid clients, as the services of their fathers and progenitors merit, for I may shortly lose all hope, seeing that I have now waited at Court for seven months in all on various occasions,

¹ *i.e.* The President of the Council of the Indies.

spending my money and hoping for the favour which Your Highness is to command to be shown to me and I pray for justice in this matter, etc., Juan de Vitoria.'

The second memorial is as follows :—' I, Juan de Vitoria, in the name of the Pinzones and as one of them, hereby affirm that I lately presented a petition to Your Highness containing an account of other petitions which I had given into His Majesty's royal hands, praying him to show favour in consideration of the services which the aforesaid Pinzones had rendered to Your Highness in discovering the new kingdom of the Indies and as His Majesty on three or four occasions did me the honour to tell me that he would command that my request should be attended to and afterwards, in order to obviate delay, by ordinance and command of your most illustrious President I presented a petition praying that favour would be shown to us to which a reply has been given, as is well known to Your Highness, and inasmuch as I have need of the petition for the despatch of the matter and also of the other papers and reports and of the legal grant received from Their Catholic Majesties of glorious memory which I presented before the Council, because it related to the aforesaid Pinzones and the privileges which Their aforesaid Majesties conceded to them and [inasmuch as] the Secretary who has charge of this matter, when I demanded these writings, papers and petitions, told me that he could not give them up without the express command of Your Highness and, seeing that I have to account for the writings which were delivered to me, as is right and reasonable, I therefore beg and pray Your Highness to command the aforesaid Secretary to give them all to me forthwith and to command that not one shall be wanting and I pray that I may have justice in this matter, etc., Juan de Vitoria.'¹

It would appear that these earnest and reiterated efforts on behalf of the descendants of the discoverers met with the success which they

¹ C. F. Duro, *Pinzon en el Descubrimiento de las Indias*, pp. 138-141.

deserved. We learn from the *Diccionario Enciclopédico Hispano-Americano* that two branches of the Pinçon family exist at the present day in Huelva and in Moguer. These are probably descended from Martin Alonso and Maria Alvarez Pinçon who had a son named Juan Martin, born in or about the year 1475 and alive in 1535¹ and from Diego Martín Pinçon of whose sons Arias Perez Pinçon and Diego Ferrandez Pinçon we have already heard and who had a third son called Bartolomé Martin.² Admiral Luis Fernandez Pinzon, who died in 1891, was a descendant of the father of the discoverers.

We have briefly passed in review the principal voyages in which Vicente Añes is known to have been engaged. But he doubtless sailed in other voyages of which there is no, or hardly any, record. There was that in which he saw enough of Cuba to ascertain that it was an island and not an extension of the mainland as Columbus always believed it to be. Pietro Martyre refers to this voyage in these words:—‘Hic Vicentius Annez meridionale Cubæ latus vniuersam ab Oriente perlustravit ad Occidentem & Cubam, à multis ad ea vsque tēpora, ob suam longitudinē, continentem putatam circūiuit. Itidem & alij plures se fecisse aiunt. Vicentius Annez cognito iam experimento patenti Cubam esse insulam, processit vltcrius & terras alias ad Occidentem Cubæ offendit: sed tactus prius ab Almiranto.’³

Several witnesses at the lawsuit of Diego Colon against the Crown testified that they had seen a chart of the discoveries made by Vicente Añes and Juan Diaz de Solis. Alonso de Hojeda testified that he had seen the draft of the country which they had discovered and that it was distinct from that which had been discovered by the Admiral.⁴ Anton Garcia also testified that he had seen a hydrographic chart of these discoveries and Nicolas Perez

¹ C. F. Duro, Colon y Pinzon, p. 207, p. 230. ² Documentos inéditos, 2^{da} Serie, 7, p. 370.

³ De rebus oceanicis, II. vii.

⁴ Documentos inéditos, 2^{da} Serie, 7, p. 208.

testified in 1513 that Columbus discovered the coast as far as Cape Gracias á Dios, that all that had been hitherto discovered beyond Cape Gracias á Dios had been discovered by Vicente Añes and Juan Díaz de Solís and that he knew this to be the case because he had seen the chart which these navigators had brought with them and that all those who went to those regions used that chart as a guide.¹

¹ Documentos inéditos, 2^{da} Serie, 7, p. 221 and p. 211.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

Archivo de Simancas. (Navarrete, III. pp. 75-76; Documentos inéditos, XXXVIII, pp. 349-352.)

AGREEMENT regarding the two caravels which the Very Reverend Lord Don Juan de Fonseca, Bishop of Badajos, Member of the Council of our Sovereign Lord and Sovereign Lady the King and the Queen, sent to the East by command of Their Highnesses with Vicente Yañez Pinzon, resident in Moguer, the captain of them in the month of December, 1495, in the form herewith set forth.

He is to receive for the freight of the aforesaid caravel named *The Vicente Yañez*, estimated to be a vessel of forty-seven *toneles*,¹ at the rate of one hundred and ten maravedis for every *tonel*.

The aforesaid Vicente Yañez is to receive as captain of the aforesaid caravels a salary of twenty thousand maravedis for one year.

He is to receive fifteen thousand maravedis for the salary of a pilot for one year.

He is to receive payment for forty sailors and men-at-arms at the rate of fifteen maravedis a day each.

He is to receive payment for the maintenance of the aforesaid forty persons at the rate of ten maravedis each daily.

He is to receive fifteen hundred maravedis every three months for grease and for the repair of damages to the aforesaid caravel.

He is to receive for the freight of the aforesaid caravel *The Fraila*, estimated to be a vessel of fifty *toneles*, at the rate of one hundred and ten maravedis a month for every *tonel*.

He is to receive fifteen thousand maravedis for the salary of a pilot for one year.

He is to receive payment for forty sailors and men-at-arms at the rate of fifteen maravedis each daily.

¹ The *tonel* was a measure of capacity different from the *tonelada*. Ten *toneles* were equal to twelve *toneladas*.

He is to receive for the maintenance of the aforesaid forty persons at the rate of ten maravedis each daily.

He is to receive fifteen hundred maravedis every three months for grease and for the repair of damages to the aforesaid caravel.

And the aforesaid captain is to go with the aforesaid caravels and their crews to Tortosa and to present himself before our Lord the King and our Lady the Queen and is to go thence and serve where Their Highnesses shall send him and, if perchance Their Highnesses should not be at Tortosa, he is to go to Barcelona and present himself before Casa-franca, the steward of the Treasurer, Gabriel Sanchez, who is there and he shall do that which he shall tell them to do.

The aforesaid captain bound himself to serve Their Highnesses with the aforesaid caravels and crews of which mention has been made above during all the time which Their Highnesses may command well, faithfully and loyally as a good vassal and to follow after whatever he may see to be for the interest of Their Highnesses and to remove out of the way whatever is contrary to their interests and to make known to Their Highnesses or to their factors anything he may see or know of which may be prejudicial or contrary to the interests of Their Highnesses ; all this he swore as obligatory upon him and bound himself even to lose all his estate and his life at the good pleasure of Their Highnesses. The Agreement and engagement commences on the first day of January, 1496.

It is thus that the aforesaid Pinzon is to receive [payment] for the aforesaid caravels with the persons aforesaid who are to be employed in them.

It appears from a letter of the Bishop of Badajoz that the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon received one hundred and sixty-nine thousand one hundred and eighty-seven maravedis on account of the payment which he is to receive for the aforesaid two caravels in addition to which payment was made for four months according to that which is stated upon this page.

APPENDIX B

Archivo de Simancas. (Navarrete, III. pp. 82-83; Documentos inéditos, XXXVIII. pp. 454-456.)

D. Fernando and Doña Isabel, &c. To you the Corregidor, Alcaldes and other Magistrates of the town of Palos, Health and Greeting: know ye that Arias Perez and Diego Ferrandez, nephews of Vicente Yañez Pinzon, speaking for themselves and in the name of their uncle aforesaid, have declared to us at his request that their uncle aforesaid and they themselves, holding our licence, equipped four caravels about a year ago, more or less, in order to make discoveries in the Indies and they made the voyage in these caravels in our service and in the course of it they discovered six hundred leagues of continental land beyond the seas and also many islands and they say that as the result of that voyage they came to be impoverished because they spent a large amount of money upon the aforesaid caravels and the equipment of them and they say moreover that in addition to the merchandise for the aforesaid voyage it was necessary to buy some goods on credit from certain merchants and they say that they were charged much more than the goods were worth and that they were charged for some of them one half more than the fair price and for others eighty per cent. and for yet others one hundred per cent. more and they say that in this transaction they sustained a great injury and loss, for (in consequence of the loss which they sustained in the aforesaid voyage) if they were compelled to pay for the goods at the price demanded, they would be completely ruined and [they say] that when they were at our Court the aforesaid

merchants sold all their possessions and they beg and pray us to grant this favour, namely, that we will ordain a remedy-at-law to be provided by ordering the property which has been seized and sold by the aforesaid merchants to be restored until they shall have sold three hundred and fifty quintals of brazil-wood which they brought back from the aforesaid voyage, because with the proceeds of that sale, they will be able to pay the aforesaid merchants without difficulty and they likewise beg that We will command you, our aforesaid Magistrates, to take cognisance of the aforesaid matters and to grant [the merchants] no pretext for compelling them to pay more for the aforesaid goods than they are fairly worth according to their value at the time when they were bought on credit, because, if they were compelled to pay the price charged for them when they received them, all their possessions would not suffice and they would have to go to prison for the debt which they could not discharge or [alternatively, they pray that] We will command you to take action according to that which is our good pleasure and according as We consider right. Wherefore We command you to look into what has been said herein and when you have summoned and heard briefly the parties concerned, giving no opportunity for malicious digressions, you shall administer justice in such a manner that the parties shall understand and that, owing to lack of understanding, they shall not have cause or reason to come to us or to send to us in order to make any complaint, neither the one party nor the other, &c. Given under our hands in the city of Granada this fifth day of the month of December of the year one thousand five hundred = Jo. Episcopus Overensis. = Felipus, Doctor. = Jo. Licenciatus. = Martinus, Doctor. = Licenciatus Zapata. = Ferdinandus Tello, Licenciatus. = Licenciatus Mojica. = Yo Alfonso del Marmol, &c. = Alonso Perez.

APPENDIX C

Archivo de Simancas. Lib. gen. de la Cámara del año 1501, número 5. (Navarrete, III. pp. 514-515.)

The King and the Queen. = Our Corregidor of the town of Palos : Vicente Yañez Pinzon and his nephews, residents in the town of Palos, have presented a memorial to us [setting forth] that when they went upon a voyage of discovery they promised to a certain Diego Prieto, a resident in the aforesaid town, that they would give him one of the slaves whom they were to bring back and that, when they were at our Court, the aforesaid Diego Prieto seized a slave whom they had in that town who is very necessary to them because, they say, he knows our language well and also that of the Indians and they say that they sustain great loss thereby and pray that We will order that the aforesaid slave shall be restored to them ; they are willing to give compensation. We therefore command you to inquire into the aforesaid matter and, if you find it to be as they say, to order the aforesaid slave to be restored and the estimated value of an ordinary slave to be paid to Diego Prieto and you shall not act contrariwise hereto. Given under our hands at Granada this twentieth day of the month of June in the year one thousand five hundred and one. = Yo El Rey. = Yo La Reina. = By command of the King and of the Queen. Gaspar de Gricio.

APPENDIX D

Registro del Sello de Corte en Simancas. (Navarrete, II. pp. 406-407 ; Documentos inéditos, XXXVIII. pp. 482-483.)

Don Fernando and Doña Isabel, etc. To all the Corregidores, Asistentes, Alcaldes, Alguasils, Merinos and all other Magistrates

of all the cities, towns and villages of our kingdoms and lordships and to each and everyone of you in your districts and jurisdictions, Health and Greeting: Know ye that Vicente Yañez Pinzon, resident of the town of Palos, set forth in a petition which he presented to us and to our Council as follows: That about a year and a half ago, more or less, he sailed for the purpose of discovering land to the Indies and he says that in order to enable them to make the voyage he lent as much as one hundred thousand maravedis to the crew who went with him and that the crew to whom he lent the one hundred thousand maravedis brought back nothing with which they could pay the one hundred thousand maravedis and that they have not paid him until now and that he has not endeavoured to compel them to pay because they are poor people and he says moreover that he has begged that We would command our Letter of Respite (*Carta de espera*) to be given him to enable him to postpone the payment of that which is due for that voyage but that it has not been given to him and that now his creditors demand that which is owing to him and that it is absolutely necessary that he should collect what is owing to him and he has begged and besought us graciously to provide a remedy-at-law ordering the aforesaid crew to repay that which he lent them or [to otherwise arrange] according to our good pleasure and We have found this to be good. Therefore We command you to see into the aforesaid matter shortly and, when you have summoned and heard the parties concerned summarily and briefly, giving no opportunity for irrelevance or malicious digressions but only ascertaining the truth, you shall do and administer justice perfectly and completely respecting the aforesaid matter in such a manner that none of the parties shall be unfairly treated so that they shall have occasion to come again to us or to send to us in order to complain and you shall not act contrariwise hereto, etc.

Given under our hand in the city of Granada this twenty-first day of the month of June in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ one

thousand five hundred and one. Joannes Episcopus Ovetensis. = Joannes, Licenciatus. = Martinus, Doctor. = Archidiaconus de Talavera. = Licenciatus Zapata. = Ferdinandus Tello, Licenciatus. = Licenciatus Mogica. = E yo Alonso del Marmol, etc. = Alonso Perez.

APPENDIX E

Archivo de Indias. E. 139—C 1. (Documentos inéditos, XXX. pp. 535—542.)

The King and the Queen.

THE AGREEMENT which by our command was made with you, Vicente Yañez Pinzon, concerning the islands and continent which you have discovered is as follows :

Firstly : That inasmuch as you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, resident in the town of Palos, by our command and holding our licence and by our authority went upon a voyage of discovery with four vessels at your own cost with certain persons and relatives and friends to the regions of the Indies situated in the Oceanic Sea where, with the help of the Lord our God and by your own perseverance and labour and long-suffering patience you discovered certain islands and a continent and where you bestowed these following names,—‘Santa Maria de la Consolacion’ and ‘Rostro-hermoso’ and followed the coast which runs north-west to the great river which you named ‘Santa Maria de la Mar dulce’ and also continued to follow the coast towards the north-west to the Cabo de San Vicente, which is also a portion of that same continent, and inasmuch further as you exposed your men to great risks and dangers in order to make discoveries for our advantage and encountered therein many difficulties and sustained many losses and increased your outlay, We therefore, in acknowledgment of the aforesaid services which you have rendered us (as well as [in anticipation] of services which We expect from you in the future) do

hold it to be right and desire that, as long as it may be our will and good pleasure, you shall have and enjoy those things which will be set forth and contained in this Agreement in remuneration, be it understood, of these your services and your outlay and of the losses which, in the aforesaid voyage, have been multiplied unto you the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon and that for as long as it shall be our will and good pleasure.

You are to be our Captain and Governor of the aforesaid territories already named extending from the aforesaid 'Cabo Santa Maria de la Consolacion' to 'Rostro-hermoso' and thence along the coast which runs to the north-west as far as the aforesaid river which you named 'Santa Maria de la Mar-dulce' together with the islands which lie at the mouth of the aforesaid river which [mouth] is called 'Marino tambulo' and you may fill the aforesaid office and exercise the aforesaid functions of Captain and Governor and you shall fill and exercise them yourself or through anyone who has authority from you together with all matters pertaining and relating to the aforesaid office in the same manner as the other Captains and Governors of similar newly discovered islands and territories exercise them and may and ought to exercise them.

Item : It is our will and good pleasure that if there shall be found and obtained hereafter in the aforesaid territory and rivers and islands gold or silver, copper or any other mineral, pearls and precious stones, drugs and spices or any other production obtained from beasts, fishes, birds, trees and plants or any other thing of any nature or kind whatsoever, you are to receive and to enjoy the sixth part of everything which in this manner We receive as long as it shall be our will and good pleasure; [it is further agreed,] that, if We at our own cost send any ships and people to the aforesaid islands, territory and rivers discovered by you, after first deducting the cost of the equipment and of the cargoes, We are to receive five-sixths of the resulting profits and you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, shall receive the

other sixth and, if any person or any persons shall go to the aforesaid islands and territory and rivers with our licence and by our command, We are to receive five-sixths of that which such person or persons shall have to pay us for the aforesaid licences and on account of the aforesaid voyages and you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, shall receive the other sixth.

Item : [It is hereby agreed] that if you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon within one year, reckoned from the day on which this Deed and Agreement shall have been signed, will go with any vessel or vessels to the aforesaid islands and territories and rivers in order to trade and to bring away anything of interest or profit, We shall have the right to levy and to collect the fifth part of the profits which remain after you have deducted therefrom the outlay that you shall have incurred in respect of the voyage on account of cargo and equipment and you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, shall retain the other four-fifths upon condition that you bring no male or female slaves and that you do not visit islands and continental land which have been already discovered or may be about to be discovered by our command and under licence from us and that you do not visit islands and continental land belonging to His Most Serene Majesty the King of *Portugal*, our very dear and well-beloved son and from these you may not take anything whatever of interest or of profit, excepting only provisions to be bought with money for the people whom you take with you and after the year as aforesaid has expired you shall not and may not enjoy the privileges granted in this concession.

Item : In order that that which you obtain in the aforesaid voyage may be known and in order that there may be no possible fraud nor mistake, We shall have the right to send one person or two persons in each of the aforesaid vessels to be present in our name and by our command at everything which shall take place and at the trading to be carried on in the aforesaid ships in any of those things which

have been already mentioned and to give us an account and [inform us of] the result of such trading and that which is for barter in each vessel shall be placed and kept in locked coffers for each of which there shall be two keys and the aforesaid person or persons who go by our command in each vessel shall have one key and you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon and any person whom you shall appoint, the other key so that no fraud nor mistake may be possible.

Item : [It is hereby agreed] that neither you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, nor any other person or persons in the aforesaid vessels and ships' companies shall trade or make bargains or receive any of those things already mentioned except in the presence of the person or persons who goes or who go by our command in each of the aforesaid vessels.

Item : [It is hereby agreed] that such person or persons who [goes or who] go by our command in each of the aforesaid vessels shall receive a share [of the profits] in the same manner as the other persons in the same vessel.

Item : [It is hereby agreed] that everything which shall be obtained or which shall be procured by barter in any manner whatsoever shall be brought without any diminution or error to the city and port of Seville or of Cadiz and shall be produced before our Officer who resides there in order that the share which we are to receive may be taken and in order that you shall not pay nor be compelled to pay on the first sale excise or customs duty or octroi dues or any other dues whatsoever on the share which you are to receive.

Item : [It is agreed] that before you begin the aforesaid voyage you shall go to present yourself at the city of Seville or of Cadiz before Gonzalo Gomez de Cervantes, our Corregidor of Xerez and Ximeno de Bribiésca, our Officer, with the vessels and ships' companies with which and with whom you intend to make the aforesaid voyage in order that they may see them and may enter the particulars in our books and perform the other necessary formalities.

We therefore appoint you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon our Captain of the aforesaid vessels and of the crews which are to go in them and We grant you our full authority and civil and criminal jurisdiction with all privileges incidental thereto and dependant therefrom and with all the rights and appurtenances pertaining thereto and We command all who may go in the aforesaid vessels to obey you as our Captain in everything and in every way and to consent to your exercising the aforesaid jurisdiction provided always that you may not order executions nor the deprivation of a limb.

Item : [It is hereby agreed] that for the sake of security you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon and the other persons who shall go in the aforesaid vessels, shall do and shall comply with everything contained in this Agreement and that everything therein contained shall be complied with and observed in every part and particular; before you begin the aforesaid voyage you shall give explicit and irrefragable pledges to the satisfaction of Diego (*sic*) Gomez de Cervantes or his Deputy.

Item : [It is hereby agreed] that you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon and the other persons who go in the vessels shall do and perform everything which is contained in this Agreement and in every particular of the same and whosoever shall act contrariwise thereto shall be liable for such infringement to the forfeiture of everything which he has gained by trading and shall lose everything and shall also be mulcted to the amount of all the profits which he would have received from the aforesaid voyage one hundred times over and We will appropriate the same to our Treasury and Exchequer and his life shall be at our mercy.

And if you will use all diligence to perform everything in the manner aforesaid and every particular thereof, We promise you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, that We will command that care shall be exercised in order to prevent any impediment whatsoever being placed in your way to hinder you from fulfilling [this Agreement]

in whole or in any part thereof. And We hereby command these Presents to be given to you signed with our names.

Given under our hands at Granada this fifth day of September in the year one thousand five hundred and one.—*Yo el Rey*.—*Yo la Reyna*. By command of the King and of the Queen.—Gaspar de Grycio.

APPENDIX F

Archivo de Simancas. Lib. gen. de Cédulas, número 5. (Navarrete, III. pp. 102–103; Documentos inéditos, XXXIX. pp. 15–17.)

The King and the Queen=In order to show grace and favour to you Vicente Yañez Pinzon and Arias Perez and Diego Hernandez, your nephews, residents in the town of Palos, and in order to make acknowledgment of the good and loyal services which you have performed for us (and which we expect you to perform in the future) in the voyages which you have made in our service to the Indies and also to other places and because you have formally undertaken to serve us and also as a reward and as an indemnification for these [voyages] and for the loss and injury which you have sustained and also in order to assist you in the voyage which you are about to undertake in our service, We, by these Presents, do give to you our licence, permission and authority to take in our kingdom of Andalusia or in the diocese of Malaga, wherever you wish, 400 *caices* of wheat in order to convey the same wherever you wish and may consider most desirable, provided that you do not convey them into the territory of Moors or enemies.

And We command our Almirante de la mar or all our Corregidores, Asistentes and Alcaldes and other Magistrates whomsoever and the Officers of the Customs and their Deputies and Guards and all persons whomsoever whom the contents of this our letter may

interest and concern to allow you to take without let or hindrance the aforesaid 400 *caices* of wheat from any ports or inhabited places in our aforesaid kingdom of Andalusia and diocese of Malaga, wherever you may desire to do so, as has been already said, without placing any embargo upon your removal of them or any impediment whatsoever [in your way]; it is our good pleasure that this be done and executed and you are in the first place to give pledges to the Corregidor and Magistracy of the city, town or place from which you take them, that you will certify within four months that you have not sold them in the territory of Moors or of enemies and they are to write before a notary public the [quantity of the] aforesaid wheat which you have taken in the manner aforesaid upon the reverse side of this our letter so that there may be no fraud nor deceit of any kind.

Given under our hands at Granada this fifteenth day of October of the year one thousand five hundred and one.=Yo El Rey.=Yo La Reina—By command &c. This aforesaid licence is valid for six months and does not entail the payment of any of the octroi duties which we have ordained to be paid and it has been signed by the Bishop of Cordova.

APPENDIX G

Archivo de Simancas. Lib. general de Cédulas, número 10. (Navarrete, III. p. 112; Documentos inéditos, XXXIX. p. 123.)

El Rey: Alonso de Morales, Treasurer of the Most Serene Queen Doña Juana, my very dear and much beloved daughter: I command you to give and pay immediately, out of the maravedis in your keeping, ten thousand maravedis to Vicente Yañez Pinzon, resident of the town of Palos, which [sum] I bestow upon him and

[I command you] to receive his acknowledgment for the same by which and by this my warrant I command that the aforesaid ten thousand maravedis shall be acquitted you and you shall not act contrariwise hereto. Given under my hand at Toro this eight and twentieth day of February of the year one thousand five hundred and five. = Yo El Rey = By command &c.

APPENDIX H

Archivo de Indias. E. 139.—C. 1. (Documentos inéditos, XXXI. pp. 283-284.)

El Rey.

Doctor Mathienzo and Francisco Pinelo¹: I have given authority to send an expedition to make discoveries in the Oceanic Sea in those parts which Amerigo and Vicente Yañez Pinzon will make known to you and in order that they may agree to it they say that they have need of four caravels, one of one hundred and fifty *toneladas*, one of one hundred *toneladas* and two of sixty *toneladas* and also of two boats which can be carried on the caravels. It therefore appears best to me to buy the caravels and to equip them with what is necessary so as to avoid paying the costs of charter which would be heavy, because the voyage is a long one and because it will be necessary to be provisioned for two years and to pay the crews four months wages in advance.

According to Amerigo the voyage is a good and very profitable one and one which ought to be agreed upon at once.

Therefore discuss the matter with them and make such an Agreement as may seem good to you in order that, by my command, an

¹ Two officials of the Casa de Contratacion.

inspector may go with them and send me soon an account of the matter and your advice about it and what it behoves one to think of it so that I may command that the matter shall be seen into and expedited so that no time may be lost.

Toro, this thirteenth day of March in the year one thousand five hundred and five. *Yo El Rey*, etc.—By command of my Lord the King.—Gaspar de Grycio.

APPENDIX I

Archivo de Indias. E. 139.—C. 1. (Navarrete, III. pp. 112–113; Documentos inéditos, XXXI. pp. 285–287.)

D. Fernando etc. Inasmuch as in a certain Agreement and Contract which by my command was entered into with you, Vicente Yañez Pinzon, my Captain and Corregidor of the island of *Sant Xoan* in the Indies of the Oceanic Sea and resident of the town of Palos to [the effect that you should] go for the purpose of peopling the aforesaid island, it is stated that you are to construct a fortress in the island at your own cost and at your own charges and that I am to command that the lieutenant-governorship of the fortress is to be conferred upon you for the term of your life and thereafter upon a successor whom you are to nominate and appoint in your lifetime or in your will and testament according as is set forth at greater length in the aforesaid Contract, therefore, in order to show you grace and favour, I, by these Presents, do confer upon you the office of Lieutenant-Governor and Alcaide of the aforesaid fortress, which you are to construct in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan*, for the term of your life and upon your successor for the term of his life, in the manner already stated, on condition of your rendering full homage for the same through my

present or any future Governor of the Islands and Continent of the Oceanic Sea who resides or shall reside in the island of *Española*. And it is my will and good pleasure that you, Vicente Yañez, shall receive and have as lieutenant-governor of the aforesaid fortress during your life, and also your successor afterwards, fifty thousand maravedis to be paid out of the revenues of the aforesaid island pertaining to me, beginning from the day on which the aforesaid fortress shall have been constructed and that the work of building and erecting shall have been completed and onwards, and if the revenue pertaining to me in the aforesaid island should not be sufficient to pay the maravedis of the aforesaid lieutenancy, [it is hereby agreed that] I am not to pay you more than the aforesaid revenue suffices to pay. And, by these Presents, I command my Council or whomsoever may by my command be charged as my Officers with the care of the revenue from the aforesaid island to deliver to you every year the aforesaid fifty thousand maravedis of the revenue from the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* as has been already stated, commencing on the day on which the fortress shall have been completed and continuing thenceforwards. And [We command] the Councils, Magistrates and Officers and Commoners of the aforesaid island, as well those who reside there at present as those who may be there in future and each and everyone of them, to regard you as my Alcaide of the aforesaid fortress for the term of your life and after your lifetime so to regard your successor and to guard and cause to be guarded all the honours, favours and emoluments, privileges and liberties, rights and precedence and prerogatives and immunities and all other appurtenances and everyone of these which you are entitled to have and to enjoy as my Alcaide of the aforesaid fortress and which ought to be guarded well and completely, so that nothing shall be wanting to you and so that no one shall place any impediment or hindrance in your way in the discharge of your office or anything pertaining to it, on pain of my displeasure and of a fine of ten thousand maravedis

payable to our Exchequer to be inflicted upon everyone who contravenes this order.

Given under our hand in the town of Toro this twenty-fourth day of the month of March of the year one thousand five hundred and five. *Yo El Rey*. I, Gaspar de Grycio, Secretary of our Lord the King, have had this written by his command.

APPENDIX J

Archivo de Indias. E. 139.—C. 1. (Documentos inéditos, XXXI. pp. 309–317.)

El Rey.

THE CONTRACT AND AGREEMENT which, by my command, was made with you Vicente Yañez Pinzon, resident of the town of *Palos* [to the effect that you are] to go to people the island which is named *Sant Xoan* in the Oceanic Sea in the regions of the Indies near the island of *Española* is as follows :

Firstly, inasmuch as, in acknowledgment of various good services which you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, have rendered me, chiefly in the conquest of the island of *Española* and in discovering other lands and islands in the aforesaid Oceanic Sea (and which I expect you to render me in future) and in order to show you my good will and favour, I (acknowledging these as I have said) appoint you Captain and Corregidor of the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* for such a period as my good will and pleasure shall determine, it is obligatory upon you to go hence one year from this present time to the aforesaid island for the purpose of holding and filling the aforesaid office and of peopling [the island] with as many inhabitants and residents as possible,

married or about to marry, and with those whom you have already who are requisite and necessary for this purpose who are to remain and to work in it without receiving any wages from us and they are to do and comply with that which you, in our name, shall command and, if any of the Christians who now are or who shall be in the aforesaid island shall be disobedient to my commands or if any Indian provinces rebel or rise in revolt against me, you are in such circumstances to make war upon them at your own charges.¹

Item : When you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, shall arrive at the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan*, you are to indicate where the aforesaid residents may found a township or two or three or four townships of fifty or sixty inhabitants each, but if the number of them should be greater and if you find that it is advantageous for the royal service, you may assign to them the district which appears to you the most suitable and needful and useful and profitable for them and in your allocation of *caballerias* and lands and woods and other things in the aforesaid island you are to follow the manner of conveyance which has been and is followed in the aforesaid island, named *Española*, and every person to whom any of the aforesaid things are allocated is to remain in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* for the space of five complete years and, if anyone desires to return before the aforesaid period, he may do so but he cannot sell his right of residence or his grant of land but must lose the same and I shall have the power to grant the same to whomsoever it shall please me.

Item : You, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, shall build a fortress in the aforesaid island at your own cost, which shall be of such a kind that the Christians shall be well able to defend themselves against the Indians and others who may come to the island and, when you have done this, I am to make you an allowance for it during your lifetime and that of a successor whom you are to nominate during your lifetime by your will and testament, the

¹ The foregoing sentences are obscure in the original as printed.

amount of which aforesaid allowance I am to make known when I am informed that the fortress is in existence and concerning the fashion of it and concerning the other works which are necessary for defence and that the aforesaid allowance is obtainable from the revenues of the aforesaid island belonging to me and if there should be no revenues belonging to me from the aforesaid island or if they should not suffice to pay you the aforesaid allowance, I am not to be under the obligation of giving and paying anything either to you or to your successor excepting only that which the aforesaid revenues suffice to pay.

Item : Of everything which you and the aforesaid residents obtain by agriculture and trading in the aforesaid island a tithe and the first-fruits of all upon which I have apostolic authority to levy taxes shall be paid to me and I shall not have power to exact any other dues nor to impose any other tax for the space of five years but civil and criminal jurisdiction and seignorial authority shall be reserved to myself and to the Royal Crown of these kingdoms and to the sovereigns who shall succeed me in the manner in which these prerogatives exist and are held in these kingdoms and lordships and the aforesaid tithes and first-fruits and other dues shall belong to me and all mines of gold and silver and copper and iron and tin and lead and quicksilver and brazil-wood and mines of sulphur and all other mines whatsoever and salt-pans and seaports and all other things pertaining to my revenues and royal dues in those parts within the portions of the aforesaid townships which shall become inhabited.

Item : Of all the gold which you and the aforesaid residents may collect and have and which the Indians who shall be with you in the aforesaid island [may collect] I am to receive the fifth part without any expense to me and you may not purchase and shall not purchase any gold from the aforesaid Indians.

Item : Neither you nor the aforesaid residents nor any of them shall or may take brazil-wood from any place as yet discovered or

which may henceforth be discovered in the aforesaid island and, if you do take any, it shall be mine and you shall assist me by giving me all of it.

Item : Of all the cotton and other materials which you and the aforesaid residents shall receive from the aforesaid Indians in the aforesaid island and which you shall teach them [to obtain] outside the boundaries of the aforesaid townships where the residents are to live and which they are to populate, you are to give and shall be compelled to give me the fifth part, except of those things which are necessary for livelihood and personal use and these things I give to you and to them as free gifts.

Item : If you or the aforesaid residents or inhabitants or any of them discover mines of any metal whatsoever, you shall first deduct the cost [of working] them and shall give me and be compelled to give me the fifth part of all and the mines shall be mine in the manner already set forth.

Item : If you and the aforesaid residents can go and do go to any of the other islands or to the mainland already discovered where there is no Governor and concerning that which they contain we have no report and if you go thither at your own charges or if they go at their own charges, you and they shall give me the fifth of all the gold and precious stones which you find in them or in any one of them and the sixth of all [other] products, always provided that you shall not and may not go without my licence and command or a licence from the officer who exercises my authority to the islands and mainland from which Cristoval Guerra and Pedro Alonso brought the pearls nor to the coast of *Coquivacoa* or of *Uraba* nor to any coast or territory beyond it.

Item : If you or they discover islands and mainland which no one has discovered hitherto, you shall give me, on the occasion of the first voyage, the fifth of all the gold and pearls and precious stones and other articles of value which you may find in them and the sixth of

all other things as has been already set forth and you may not return to these places without my special licence and command.

Item : If any mine of gold or silver or any precious stones or any other metals or any materials for the purpose of dyeing should be discovered in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan*, I am to have the right to appoint an Inspector or two or more Inspectors who is or who are to be present when the aforesaid gold and other things already mentioned are collected in order that he [or they] may recover our share according to this Agreement and he is to keep an account of it in the same manner as is done in the aforesaid island of *Española*.

Item : Those who are to go to reside in and to people the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* are not to be residents and colonists of any of the islands or of the mainland of the Oceanic Sea who have gone thither from these kingdoms nor are they to be persons who have been forbidden to leave the aforesaid islands and mainland.

Item : You and the other residents and colonists who may reside in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* shall do and comply with everything which he who is or who shall be my Governor of the aforesaid islands and mainland of the aforesaid Oceanic Sea shall command in my name.

All the aforesaid injunctions I command you to observe in order that you and all the aforesaid residents and everyone of them may assist my aforesaid Governor and my Inspectors and Officers well and loyally in regard to everything which belongs or shall belong to me and which they are to give or to pay to me and whosoever shall fail in this or shall defraud me of my rights, in addition to those other penalties provided by the laws of these kingdoms, shall by his act lose whatsoever advantage has been conceded to him by this Contract and Agreement and I and my Officers shall not be compelled to order the observance of the same [in his case].

I require and command and it is my good will and pleasure and I pledge my good faith and royal word that if you, the aforesaid

Vicente Yañez Pinzon, keep and comply with these conditions and also the other persons whom the aforesaid concerns keep and comply with all that has been prescribed, I, on my part, will command that all that has been agreed upon herein and each and every part of it which concerns me and which it is incumbent upon me to command to be observed and complied with shall be observed and complied with accordingly. I therefore command whomsoever is or shall be my Governor of the aforesaid Indies and *Tierra Firme* to order my Auditor who resides in the aforesaid *Española* to have these conditions observed and complied with and [I command] the Officials of the Casa de Contratacion de las Indias who reside in the city of Seville and all other persons who have or who shall have charge of the revenues of the aforesaid Indies to enter the copy of this aforesaid Agreement in the books and to sign it and to return this original to you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon, in order that you and the aforesaid residents may enjoy the benefit of the privileges contained in it and in order that any licence or permit or other provision, which you may ask for and which it may be needful for you to have relating to that which has been mentioned, may be given and granted to you and may be caused so to be given and granted and in order that they may place no obstacle nor difficulty in your way regarding the Agreement or any part of it nor consent that any impediment shall be placed in your way, under pain of my displeasure and under a penalty of ten thousand maravedis to be paid into the Exchequer by whomsoever shall contravene this ordinance.

Given under my hand in the city of Toro this twenty-fourth day of the month of April in the year after the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand five hundred and five.—*Yo El Rey*.—By command of my Lord the King.—Gaspar de Grycio.—Signed by the Licentiate Zapata.

APPENDIX K

Archivo de Indias. E. 139.—C. 1. (Documentos inéditos, XXXI.
pp. 318–322.)

DON FERNANDO, ETC.

Unto you my Governor now or about to be of the Islands of the Oceanic Sea and unto you the Councils, the Magistrates, Regidors and Chevaliers, Officers and Commoners who are now resident or who are about to reside in the Island of *Sant Xoan* which is in the Oceanic Sea and to each of you, Health and Greeting: know ye that I purpose to perform zealously that which is required by God and my duty in the execution of justice and of that which is consistent with peace and tranquillity and good government in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* and that it is my desire and good pleasure that Vicente Yañez Pinzon, resident of the town of *Palos*, shall hold from me the offices of Captain and Corregidor of the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* as long as it shall be my desire and good pleasure together with civil and criminal jurisdiction and authority and the offices of Alcalde and Alguazil pertaining thereto. I therefore command you all and each one [and firstly] you, the aforesaid Governor, as soon as you shall see these my letters-patent, without any delay and without having further recourse [to my authority] or waiting for any other letter from me or any other command or decision, to receive from the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon the oath and other formalities which are customary in such circumstances and thereafter to receive him as the Captain and Corregidor of the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* and to permit him to freely exercise and to give your consent to his freely exercising the aforesaid functions of Captain and Corregidor and you shall act according to and shall

execute law and justice in the aforesaid island through him and through his officers and deputies and it is my will and good pleasure that he shall make the appointments to the aforesaid offices of Alcalde and Alguazil and the other offices subordinate to and pertaining to the aforesaid office of Corregidor and that he shall have authority to dismiss and remove from office, when he wishes to execute justice in my name, anyone of them and appoint others in their place and others shall be so appointed and he may hear and decide and resolve and shall hear and decide all lawsuits and cases civil and criminal which are now undecided and already instituted and in progress in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xooan* and which shall hereafter be instituted and, when the aforesaid officers shall have been appointed in my name, he and his Alcaldes may exact and shall exact the dues and salaries pertaining to the aforesaid office of Corregidor, conformably to the schedule of rates in force in the island of *Española*, and may make any inquiries and hear cases duly sanctioned and do all other duties pertaining to the aforesaid office and he or whosoever shall exercise his authority is to understand that it is for the advantage of my service and of the execution of justice that you act in harmony with him in all respects as also your assistants and subordinates for the purpose of having the aforesaid duties fulfilled and of having justice done and executed and you are to give him and to cause others to give him all the good will and assistance which he may require and which shall be necessary and you are not to place any let or hindrance in the way of the execution of his duty or of any part of it nor to allow any such for I, by these presents, appoint him and he is hereby held to be appointed to the aforesaid offices and to the discharge and exercise of them and I grant him power and authority to fill them and to exercise and execute justice in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xooan* in case he should not be acknowledged by you or by any one of you.

Item : It is my desire and good pleasure that appeals which shall

be lodged [against the decisions] of the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon or his officers shall go before you, the aforesaid Governor, and if the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon is of opinion that it is expedient for my service in the execution of justice that any burgesses and cavaliers who are or who may [hereafter] be in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* shall leave it and shall not continue to dwell there but shall come and appear before me or before you, the aforesaid Governor, he shall have authority so to order them to leave in my name and to expel them from it and upon [such persons] and upon each one of them whom he shall so command [to do] I, by these Presents, do ordain that forthwith, without having recourse to me and without consulting me thereanent and without awaiting my further commands or ordinances and without presenting any appeal or petition, you are to enforce his sentence according as he shall have directed and ordained under such penalties as you see fit to impose upon [such persons] in my name, which penalties I, by these Presents, do impose and they are imposed accordingly and I grant to you power and authority to impose them and to inflict them upon such persons as may be remiss and disobedient and, by these my letters-patent, I grant to you plenary authority with all the accidents and privileges and prerogatives which are attached thereto for the purposes aforesaid and for each and every one of them and for the purpose of causing the aforesaid office of Corregidor to be exercised and justice to be administered and executed in that island of *Sant Xoan*.

Item : I command the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon to order the fines due to my Treasury and Exchequer which he and his Alcaldes may impose and those penalties which they impose on behalf of my aforesaid Exchequer to be exacted and to be paid over to the Treasurer, Alonso de Morales, or to whomsoever may exercise the functions of his office or to the person or persons who have charge in my name of the revenues belonging to me in the aforesaid island in order to apply the same in the manner in which they shall

be commanded to apply them. And it is my desire and good pleasure that he receive fifty thousand maravedis annually as salary with the aforesaid offices of Captain and Corregidor, which sum is to be paid year by year out of the revenues belonging to me in the aforesaid island of *Sant Xoan* and whether the revenues which We shall receive from it shall exceed that amount or shall not suffice for the purpose of paying that which the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon is to receive, I am not to be obliged to pay him more than the aforesaid revenues suffice to pay. And I command the person or persons who by my command has or have to collect the revenues belonging to me in the aforesaid island to pay him yearly the aforesaid amount out of the aforesaid revenue and his receipt or that of his representative is to be taken for the aforesaid fifty thousand maravedis, beginning from the day when he assumes the aforesaid offices of Captain and Corregidor, and the receipt and the copy of this my ordinance, signed by a notary public, are to be received and registered. And neither the one nor the other, etc.

Given under my hand in the city of *Toro* this twenty-fourth day of April in the year one thousand five hundred and five.—*Yo El Rey*. —I, Gaspar de Grycio, Secretary of our Lord the King, have had this written by his command.

APPENDIX L

Archivo de Simancas. (Navarrete, III. pp. 113–114; Documentos inéditos, XXXIX. pp. 131–132.)

Dofia Juana, &c. To you the Bachelor Juan de Burgos, my Senior Alcalde of the town of Palos, Health and Greeting: know ye that Vicente Yañez Pinzon, resident in the town of Moguer, has laid a report before me by means of his petition which has been presented

to our Council in which he states that he is engaged in a certain lawsuit with Alvaro Alonso Rascon, a resident in the aforesaid town, respecting a caravel which he alleges that he chartered from him for the purpose of sailing in my service and [the aforesaid petition also sets forth] other pleadings and arguments contained in the aforesaid legal process and he states that the legal proceedings in connection with the aforesaid lawsuit are concluded so that judgment can be pronounced and he alleges that the voyage was to have been made in my service and that, in consequence of no judgment having been pronounced, he was unable to set out and that in such circumstances he must sustain great injury and loss and he prays and petitions that I will show him royal favour and will provide a remedy-at-law by commanding you to pronounce judgment speedily and to bring the aforesaid lawsuit to a conclusion according to law or according to my good pleasure. And when the petition had been examined by those of my Council it was decided that I should command this my royal ordinance to be given to you with regard to this matter and I judged this decision to be right; therefore, I command you, if the aforesaid lawsuit is concluded as far as a provisional judgment, to pronounce the aforesaid provisional judgment within six days and, if it is concluded as far as a definitive judgment, [I command you] to pronounce a definitive judgment within twenty days and if, [on the other hand] the case is not concluded [I command you] to bring it to a conclusion and to give an opportunity for doing this without delay or adjournment and, when it has been thus concluded, you are to pronounce the aforesaid provisional and definitive judgments within the aforesaid periods of time according as the law of the kingdom provides and ordains in such cases under the penalty of paying the costs of a deferred lawsuit and you shall not act contrariwise hereto &c.

Given under our hand in the city of Segovia this twenty-eighth day of the month of September of the year one thousand five hundred and five.=Joannes, Episcopus Cordovensis.=M. Doctor,

Archidiaconus de Talavera.=Ferdinandus Tello, Licenciatus.=
 Licenciatus de Santiago.=Licenciatus Polanco.=Yo Cristóbal de
 Vitoria, Escribano de Cámara &c.=Licenciatus Polanco.

APPENDIX M

Archivo de Indias. Est. 148. Caj. 2º. (Documentos inéditos, XXXVI.
 pp. 216-221.)

El Rey.

You, our Officers of the Casa de la Contratacion de las *Indias* residing in the city of *Seville*, know already that I have written to you to the effect that I have consented that Xoan Diaz de Solis and Vicente Yañez Pinzon, our pilots, should go in two caravels to make discoveries in certain regions from which We would derive advantage. I sent you a Memorandum concerning the things which it appeared necessary to provide for the aforesaid voyage so that when they should arrive everything might be ready. The aforesaid Xoan Diaz and Vicente Yañez are going now to obtain the aforesaid [necessary articles] and I am sending you a second Memorandum by them concerning the things which appear to be most necessary for the aforesaid voyage and, as I know that this is their wish, if any other articles than those mentioned in the aforesaid Memorandum appear to you to be necessary where they are going, they are to be provided up to the amount which I have mentioned in writing out of the eight hundred and fifty thousand maravedis; in this way they will take with them the necessary quantity of everything and there will be no lack of anything that is necessary for a voyage of this kind.

I therefore command and charge you to use all diligence in the despatch of this matter and to have everything in readiness so that

(as I have already mentioned in writing) he may be able to set sail at a favourable moment during the month of May, because, if they do not depart by that time, they will not be able to go for another year and you are to let me know when they will depart and what equipment they take with them and to assist the aforesaid Xoan Diaz and Vicente Yañez in the matter of the contracts which they conclude by means of an advance [of money] for eight months and, as you will see how greatly this business is conducive to our advantage, use in it that application and diligence which I expect of you so that you may serve me well therein.

Burgos, this twenty-second day of March in the year one thousand five hundred and eight. = Yo El Rey. = By command of Their Highnesses, = Lope Conchillo.

MEMORANDUM

Concerning the two caravels to be taken for the voyage which Vicente Yañez Pinzon and Xoan Diaz de Solis, pilots of their Highnesses, are to make at a favourable time by command of Our Lord the King and concerning the people who are to go in them and that which is to be provided for them; this is in addition to what was contained in the Memorandum concerning the equipment which was sent to the Officers of the Casa de la Contratacion de las *Indias* residing in the city of *Seville* so that the equipment may be ready against the time of arrival of the aforesaid pilots.

They are to take the two caravels which Our Lord the King sent to order and if the caravel *Isabeleta* is not suitable for the aforesaid voyage they are to seek out two caravels of from fifty to seventy *toneles* burden each and, if it is necessary that these caravels should be paid for in advance for three months at the rate of so much a month for each *tonelada* reckoning them at seventy *toneles* each¹

Twenty-four able-bodied seamen are to be taken, amongst which

¹ The Roman numerals of the original document are unintelligible. (*Foot-note of Editor*).

number one clerk is to be entered who is to be found ; each of these is to be paid three months' wages in advance "

Sixteen ordinary seamen (*grumetes*) are to be taken for three months "

Six cabin-boys are to be taken for three months "

Two pilots are to be taken, one for each caravel, for three months "

One Master for each caravel for three months "

One carpenter for each caravel for three months "

One caulker for each caravel for three months "

One master-gunner for each caravel for three months "

One cooper for each caravel for three months "

This makes fifty-eight individuals and there is also the freight of the aforesaid two caravels "

That which still appears necessary for the aforesaid voyage "

For the purchase of other articles necessary for this purpose "

For the cabin of the physician and surgeon "

For eleven arrobas of wine "

For dried fish "

For beans and pulse "

For cheese "

For a quinto of honey "

For six quintals of pitch "

For six quintals of grease "

For four quintals of oakum. "

TACKLE

For the anchor of the larger vessel "

For the other small anchor three quintals in weight "

For the anchor of the smaller vessel "

For the small anchor "

For the cable of the large vessel "

For the rope for the derrick	.	.	.	.	„
For a cable for the smaller vessel	.	.	.	.	„
For a second cable for the same vessel	.	.	.	.	„
For small cordage which the pilot will require	.	.	.	.	„
For a twelve-oared boat	.	.	.	.	„
For twelve pieces of sailcloth	.	.	.	.	„
For twine, needles, wax, fishing-lines, fish-hooks, a fishing-net, a compass, lanterns, clocks, ¹ hatchets, saws, hammers, crow-bars, plates, porringers, kettles and other odds and ends	.	.	.	.	„
For extras not mentioned here	.	.	.	.	„

And seeing that Our Lord the King wrote to the aforesaid Officers to the effect that a great quantity of articles would be necessary for this voyage, if any other article should be necessary in order that the aforesaid voyage should not fail, you are to provide whatever the aforesaid Vicente Yañez and Xoan Diaz may ask for as necessary so that everything may be provided to their satisfaction and that they may go provided with everything that is necessary.

You are also to assist the aforesaid Vicente Yañez and Xoan Diaz in regard to those articles which they require to obtain by means of the Contract which His Highness commanded them to enter into for eight months in advance „

You are to use the care and diligence necessary to the success of this voyage in all respects and in the manner signified by His Highness in writing ; everything is to be ready without fail for the month of May next ensuing for they are to set out then, with God's blessing, and you are to inform His Highness by a careful messenger regarding the diligence which you exercise and the hour at which they are to set sail.

Given under our hand at *Burgos* this twenty-second day of March in the year one thousand five hundred and eight. The Bishop of Palencia, etc.—Lope Conchillo.

¹ ' Rreloxes ' (relojes). Even an hour-glass would be called ' reloj de arena.'

APPENDIX N

Archivo de Indias. (Documentos inéditos, XXII. pp. 5-13.)

In the year 1508.

EL REY.

THE AGREEMENT which I have commanded to be concluded with you, Vicente Yañez Pinzon, resident in Moguer and Juan Diaz de Solis, resident in Lepe, and those things which you are to do in the voyage which, with the help of the Lord our God, you are to undertake towards the North-west by my command are as follows :

Firstly, when you shall have sailed at a favourable time from Cadiz, you are to follow the direction and the course which the aforesaid Juan Diaz de Solis shall tell you to follow, which course I command you [Juan Diaz de Solis] to make known to the aforesaid Vicente Yañez and to our other pilots and masters and members of the council [of the ships] so that there may be the more harmony and that you may know better what you have to do.

Every day, once in the morning and once in the evening, one ship is to speak with the other, without observing any formality or deferring the one to the other, excepting only that the ship which is to windward shall be on the look-out for that which is to leeward and you are to hail in the usual and customary manner at least once every evening and you are to agree upon that which you are to do during the night and I command my inspector and clerk who goes with the aforesaid caravels to observe carefully how this is done and to report on any occasion that it is not done for what reason it was omitted because I have commanded it as it is right and proper in our service.

After that the arrangements that are to be followed have been agreed upon between the two vessels, you, the aforesaid Juan Solis, are to hang out a lantern so that the other ship may be able to follow you.

Item : In the presence of the aforesaid inspector and clerk, you are to decide amongst yourselves what signals the two ships are to make use of, as well in respect of the course [to be followed] as in respect of any supply of tackle which may be required and each ship is to obtain through the captain the vouchers of the aforesaid inspector so that he may know whose fault it is that something is wanting.

You are not to touch at any continent nor at any island belonging to His Most Serene Majesty the King of Portugal by [virtue of] the line of demarcation agreed upon between ourselves and the aforesaid king, which line is said to delimit in this manner ; a line starts from the last of the Cape Verde Islands towards the west and proceeds in a westerly direction for LXX¹ leagues, at which point a second line running north and south crosses the aforesaid line [and all the sea and continent and islands] to the westward [of the line] belong to us and the sea and continent and islands to the east of the aforesaid line which runs north and south belongs, as has been agreed, to the aforesaid King of Portugal ; this line has been defined in a statute ; at these [possessions of the King of Portugal], as already stated, you are not to touch, under those pains and penalties which those are subjected to and incur who transgress and infringe such ordinances, that is to say, loss of their possessions and the placing of their lives at our mercy ; but if peradventure in going or in returning, you should be in great straits owing to a storm or to lack of provisions or of tackle or to any other fortuitous circumstances which you shall be unable to avoid, you may land there in order to escape these great straits or for the purpose of obtaining for money such things as may be necessary and you are to procure them at their true value but you are not to cause any disturbance in the country nor to use force nor to give any offence nor to cause any commotion in it [and this is to be done] by the captain and the pilots and the sailors acting in

¹ This should probably be CCCLXX. See p. 13.

concert and my aforesaid inspector and clerk is to be present as a witness when you procure such things.

Item : If, after that you have crossed the aforesaid line and are in our dominions, you shall encounter any ship or ships which are navigating there without my licence you shall require them, if they are at sea, to give you an account of themselves and to inform you whence they come and whither they are going and the course they are taking, so that you may know if they are going to our dominions and you are to require that they shall not go to any part of the territory belonging to us and, if they will not do this or will not inform you whence they come, you may capture them and bring them as prizes to these kingdoms of Castile and, if you find them ashore in any part of the territories which belong to us, you may seize them and also everything which they are taking away and of that which you take and which belongs to us, two-thirds having been brought to us, We, by these presents, make over to you one-third in order that it may be divided between the ships and ships' companies in the usual manner in which prizes are divided.

Item : When, if it please God, you shall, with His blessing, have arrived, as soon as you have anchored, you are to obey the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon as my Captain, appointed by me and for this purpose I give him full authority and he, with the consent of the members of the ships' council, is to do on land everything which he may see to be for our advantage.

You are not to linger in the harbours of the country which you may thus discover longer than is necessary for the purpose of obtaining what is needful but you are, after a brief sojourn, to continue the voyage with all dispatch in order to discover that strait or free passage by sea which is the principal object of your voyage or that which I desire to be sought for ; if you act contrariwise thereto, I shall be ill served and I will command that such an action be punished and that such steps be taken as are for our advantage.

You are to provide in every possible way and by all possible means against any molestation of the people of the country which you may discover and in my name you are to order all those who go with you to treat the people well and to do them no harm nor cause them any loss and if anyone should act in a contrary manner you are to punish him for it, but you and all the others are to act with much forbearance and moderation so that [the inhabitants] shall not be dissatisfied and that the trafficking may go on in all peace and quietness and as it ought to do for the benefit of commerce and for our advantage.

Item : I command that neither you, the aforesaid Vicente Yañez and Juan Diaz, nor either of you separately nor any other person shall land or barter any goods unless you take with you my aforesaid inspector and clerk so that, it being done in his presence, he may take note and keep an account of everything you do and in like manner I command that the aforesaid inspector shall not barter anything unless you are present at the bartering but [he may barter] in your presence and [in the presence of] two sailors and before [your eyes] and they shall enter in the book that which they have thus bartered, setting down the manner in which each article is bartered, and you and they shall sign the book so that that which shall have been done may be known here.

Item : I ordain that after the merchandise belonging to us which is taken in the aforesaid ships shall have been bartered, you may barter all that which belongs to the ships' companies, provided that one half of all that you barter shall be ours and the remaining half the ships' companies' and provided that the bartering take place in presence of my aforesaid inspector as has already been stated, under the penalty on violation hereof of losing that which you have bartered and also that which you have received in exchange for it and it may all be confiscated.

Moreover, by these Presents, I grant permission to you, the

aforesaid Vicente Yañez and Juan de Solis, to bring on your return [the contents of] your store-rooms free of duty instead of bringing captured natives and the pilots and masters [may bring] their chests which shall not exceed five hands in breadth and three in height and there shall be one chest for two able-bodied seamen and one for three ordinary seamen and one for four boys, [all free of duty] as aforesaid, always provided that the merchandise which shall be brought in the aforesaid store-rooms and chests shall be in bulk such as cinnamon, cloves and pepper and other things of that kind but nothing of gold or of silver and no precious stones nor any other thing small in size and of great value nor any other metal such as quani¹ and all other articles of this kind are to be ours and your recompense is the privilege of bringing free of duty other kinds of merchandise.

Item : If, after you have decided to return, you should find that you lack provisions or other necessities and if you should be in convenient proximity to it and it would be useful and advantageous to touch at Española rather than to return directly here, you may touch there and, if you do so, I command you to give our Governor of the aforesaid island an account of the voyage which you have made and of that which you have discovered and if he asks you to state the nature of your cargo you are to do so and, if any tackle or any other thing whatsoever which is necessary for the voyage to Castile should be wanting, he is to provide it on my behalf and I therefore command my Governor aforesaid to provide without fail those things of which you may stand in need.

Moreover I command you, if God shall bring you back in safety from this voyage to these kingdoms of Castile, not to enter (and you shall not enter) nor to touch at any foreign port but only at the ports of these kingdoms but if, owing to stress of weather you are compelled to enter a foreign port, we command you to do no mischief in it and to give no account of the cargo which you have brought nor of the

¹ Possibly guanine (guanina) is the substance meant.

voyage nor where you have been nor whence you come nor of any other matter whatsoever.

Item : When you shall have arrived at these kingdoms, you are to enter the port of Cadiz and no member of the ships' companies is to be permitted to go on shore and you are not to allow anyone from the shore to board the ships until our Officer of the Customs has seen them and made his visit and made an inventory of all that which you have brought in them as is required by our regulations and you shall not land until after that which has been mentioned shall have been done and until the aforesaid Officer of the Customs shall have given permission.

I require and command that everything that has been mentioned shall be observed and complied with in all respects in the fashion and manner which is set forth in this Agreement and you shall not contravene nor infringe its tenour and contents nor consent to their contravention or infringement in any way under the penalty of loss of possessions and of those other punishments which those who transgress and infringe the commands and injunctions of their sovereigns and lords incur and to which they are subjected and I command the masters and able-bodied and ordinary seamen and all other persons who sail in the aforesaid ships to obey you as my Captains and to do that which you order [to be done] in my name consistently with the King's service, and in regard to matters relating to the navigation of the ships you are to do that which appears good to the aforesaid Juan Diaz de Solis and on land you are to do that which the aforesaid Vicente Yañez orders and for the accomplishment of everything that is contained herein I hereby give to you [the aforesaid Juan Diaz de Solis and the aforesaid Vicente Yañez Pinzon] full authority and all the accidents and attributes pertaining thereto.

Given under my hand in Burgos this twenty-third day of the month of March in the year one thousand five hundred and eight.—Yo el Rey.—By command of His Highness. Loppe Conchillos.—El Obispo de Palencia.—Conde.

APPENDIX O

EVIDENCE GIVEN ON THE PETITION OF THE PROCURATOR-GENERAL
RELATIVE TO THE DISCOVERIES MADE IN THE THIRD AND
FOURTH VOYAGES OF D. CRISTOBAL COLON. Archivo de
Indias. Pto. 1-1-5/12, pieza 24. (Documentos inéditos, Segunda
Serie. Tomo. núm. 7. pp. 245-246, 192-195, 260, 262-263,
266-271, 283.

(EXTRACTS)

. . . in the aforesaid city of Seville on the eighteenth day of the
aforesaid month of March of the aforesaid year [1513], the aforesaid
Comendador Ochoa de Ysasaga and the Contador de Recalde
appeared before the aforesaid Deputy-Procurator and presented
Diego Cabeçudo and Diego Martin Barranco and Pedro de Ledesma
as witnesses in the aforesaid suit from whom and from each of whom
the oath was required, etc.

And after that which has already been stated in the aforesaid city
of Seville, on the one-and-twentieth day of the aforesaid month of
March of the aforesaid year one thousand five hundred and thirteen,
the aforesaid Comendador Ochoa de Ysasaga and the Contador Lope
de Recalde appeared before the aforesaid Deputy-Procurator and
presented as witnesses in the aforesaid suit Juan de Noya, cooper, and
Martin de Arriera, cooper, and Vicente Añez Pinçon and Francisco de
Porrás from whom and from each of whom the oath was required
in due form, etc. . . .

Those things which the aforesaid witnesses said and deponed in
their statements and depositions when they were asked the questions
of the aforesaid interrogatory and the interrogatory according to
which they were examined are as follows :

Let the following questions be addressed to the witnesses who

were presented by the Procurator-General of Your Highness in the lawsuit with the Admiral of the Indies.

(IN EXTENSO)

I.—Firstly: Let the aforesaid witnesses be asked if they know the aforesaid Procurator-General and the aforesaid Admiral¹ and if they knew the Admiral Cristoval Colon, his father and his Lordship Don Juan de Fonseca, now Bishop of Palencia and Juan de la Cosa and Alonso de Hojeda and Pero Alonso Nyño and Cristoval Guerra and Rodrigo de Bastidas and Vicente Yañez Pinzon and Diego de Lepe and Joan Diaz de Solis.

II.—If they know or have heard it said that the aforesaid Admiral Don Cristoval Colon discovered nothing in what is now called *Tierra Firme* except on one occasion when he touched only at that part of the country which is called Paria in the Boca del Drago and at no other part and only at that part of it which is in the sea and is an island and that he departed thence in the direction of Española and passed in sight of the island which is called La Margarita and neither saw nor discovered aught else of *Tierra Firma* in that voyage.

III.—Moreover, if they know, etc., that Cristoval Guerra and Pero Alonso Niño and those who went in company with them discovered the mainland of Paria and the [place of] barter of pearls and carried the aforesaid pearls away and brought them with them to Galicia and came thence to Seville and made a report and gave an account of them to Don Juan de Fonseca who held office for Their Highnesses and [if they know that] they paid the share which belonged to Their Highnesses and if they know that at the time at which these persons went and bought the aforesaid pearls the aforesaid Admiral had not entered nor touched at those places.

IV.—Moreover, if they know, &c., that at that time Alonso de Hojeda and Juan de la Cosa, pilot, and those who went in their

¹ *i.e.* Diego Colon.

company, made discoveries on the coast of the mainland towards the west from the Frailes or Gigantes to the Point which is now called Anabacoa and that before that time neither the Admiral nor any other persons had touched at the aforesaid coast nor at the aforesaid countries which the aforesaid Ojeda and Juan de la Cosa discovered and that the aforesaid Don Juan de Fonseca who is now Bishop of Palencia and who held office for Their Highnesses sent them and commanded them to go.

V.—Moreover, if they know that after this Rodrigo de Bastida and Juan de la Cosa discovered on the aforesaid mainland, more to the west, the part which is called Uraba, where the province of El Darien is, and brought the specimens of gold and of other things which they found in the aforesaid country to Alcalá de Henares and gave them up there by command of His Highness and that they were sent out by the aforesaid Don Juan de Fonseca and that when they returned the aforesaid bishop was at court and that there they paid what was due to His Highness and [that that country] had not been discovered by anyone previously to that time.

VI.—Likewise, if they know that Vicente Yañez Pinzon and those who went with him to make discoveries made discoveries towards the eastern part of the coast which has been discovered as far as the Point which is called that of Santa Cruz and of Saint Augustine and from there entered the mouth of the great river where they found the water fresh which flowed into the sea and that neither the Admiral nor any other person belonging to these kingdoms had discovered that coast previously.

VII.—Likewise, if they know that Diego de Lepe and those who went with him in another voyage discovered the coast which runs towards the south from the aforesaid point to the furthest limit as yet discovered for neither before nor since has the Admiral or any other person gone to make discoveries in that quarter.

VIII.—Likewise, if they know that afterwards the aforesaid

Admiral went to make discoveries and did discover a part of the country which they now call Veragua and returned thence to Española.

IX.—Likewise, if they know that afterwards Vicente Yañez and Juan de Solis went to make discoveries by command of His Highness and discovered beyond the aforesaid land of Veragua everything that has been discovered until now at which land the aforesaid Admiral did not touch nor discover any coast of it.

X.—Likewise, if they know that that which these discovered is separate from that which the aforesaid Admiral discovered.

XI.—And let all other general questions touching upon the case and appertaining thereto be addressed to the aforesaid witnesses.

(EXTRACTS)

Pedro de Ledesma, pilot of our Lord the King, resident of the parish of Santa Maria in Seville, having been presented as a witness in the aforesaid suit and having sworn in due form and having been interrogated according to the interrogatory replied as follows: . . .

He replied to the sixth question that he only knows that this witness saw the aforesaid Vicente Añes and his company depart upon the voyage mentioned in this question and that this witness saw him return and bring with him the draft of all that he had discovered and [he knows] that his draft is incorporated in the sailing-chart of His Highness and that is all that he knows relating to this question. . . .

To the ninth question he replied to the effect that this witness went in company with Vicente Añes and Juan de Solis by command of His Highness and that he saw that the aforesaid Vicente Añes and Juan de Solis discovered beyond the land of Veragua towards the north all that has been discovered until now from the island of Gualasa northwards and that in these regions they are called

Chavañin and Pintigua¹ and that they almost reached twenty-three and a half degrees north latitude and that the aforesaid Don Cristobal Colon did not go in this [voyage] and did not discover [that country] nor see it.²

(IN EXTENSO)

Vicente Añes Pinçon, captain of Their Highnesses, resident of Seville, in Triana, having been presented as a witness in the aforesaid suit, having sworn in due form and having been interrogated according to the questions of the aforesaid interrogatory replied as follows :—

To the first question he replied that he knows and has known those who are mentioned in this question and has known them for twenty years saving the Procurator of Her Highness and he replied that this witness is Vicente Añes and that he is not related to any of the parties, etc.

To the second question he replied that this witness did not make the voyage with the aforesaid Don Cristoval Colon which is mentioned in this question but in the same year in which the aforesaid Don Cristoval set out and went to make discoveries this witness went and made discoveries by command of His Highness from the cape which is called [the Cape] of Consolation and along the coast to the Boca del Dragon and that this witness found indications and received information there in the Boca del Dragon that the aforesaid Don Cristoval had arrived there at the Boca del Dragon and went to no other part but went direct to the island of Española and that he fell in with an island on the way to which they gave the name La Margarita and that after this voyage he went to the island of Española and [he said] that this witness knows this by what he has stated and because pilots and persons who went with the aforesaid Admiral have told

¹ Navarrete has Guanaja, Chabaca and Pintigron. III. p. 558.

² *i.e.* Land beyond Veragua.

him so and that it was so known publicly and that for that reason this witness holds it to be certain.

To the third question he replied that he heard Cristoval Guerra and Pero Alonso Niño and other persons who made this voyage say that which is stated in this question and that this witness regards as true that which is stated in this question because of that which has been said and because thus it was publicly known and because, after they had returned from that voyage, this witness went to the country which is called Paria and knew and saw indications there that the aforesaid Cristoval Guerra and Pero Alonso Niño had discovered the land of Paria mentioned in this question and the [place of] barter of pearls and that this witness knows that at the time when the aforesaid Cristoval Guerra and Pero Alonso Niño entered this [place of] barter of the land of Paria and the Gulf of the Pearls the aforesaid Don Cristoval Colon had not entered it nor discovered it and he knows and has heard this ; thus was it known publicly at that time and he adheres to what he has said.

To the fourth question he replied that he does not know but that he has heard many persons, including Alonso de Hojeda and Juan de la Cosa, say that which is contained in this question and that he holds that which is stated in this question to be certain because this witness has heard many persons say that it was so and he has seen it so laid down on the sailing-charts of persons who went in this voyage.

To the fifth question he replied that he was not present at this voyage excepting only when the aforesaid Rodrigo de la Bastida and Juan de la Cosa returned from discovering and came to this city of Seville to give an account of this voyage to Francisco Pinelo and Doctor Matienço, officers of the [Casa de la] Contratacion, and this witness saw the gold which they brought in many pieces to the amount of one hundred and fifty marcos¹ of gold and they said that they had discovered all the coast of the mainland as far as Uravá.

¹ The marco was equal to eight ounces.

To the sixth question he replied that the matter contained in this question is as is stated in it and that he knows this because this witness is that same Vicente Añes Pinçon and he knows and it is true that he made discoveries from the Cabo de Consolacion, which is in the portion belonging to Portugal and is now called Cabo de Sant Agustin, and that he discovered all the coast by sailing west by north-west, for the land trends in that direction, and that he discovered and found the water to be fresh which flows for forty leagues into the sea and [found] a freshwater lagoon and he also discovered that province which is called Parisura¹ and sailed along the coast to the Boca del Dragó and [he said] that this witness there learned the news that the aforesaid Don Cristoval had reached the aforesaid Boca del Dragó and that he passed on to Española as has been said.

He replied to the eighth question that at the time when the aforesaid Don Cristoval made the voyage mentioned in this question the witness was in the island of Española and saw the aforesaid Don Cristoval return from discovering (for he had been in Jamaica) and [he said] that the aforesaid Don Cristoval Colon and those who went with him said that he had made discoveries to the south of Aheti² and of Cuba, which is an island, and that they reached land by sailing west-south-west to an island which is called Guanaxa to which they said that they gave the name Isla de Pinos and that he crossed thence to the mainland to the province Ebuya of the cacique Camarona which is at the commencement of the sierra and the aforesaid Don Cristoval returned thence towards the east and proceeded along the coast and discovered a cape and named it Gracias á Dios and sailed thence along the coast to the eastward and there discovered a bay which is called Veragua where he bartered certain articles and [he said] that he went no farther and that he returned thence to Jamaica and came to the island of Española and that this witness

¹ Navarrete has Paricura. III. p. 547.

² Hayti.

regards what he has said as certain because it was publicly known to be thus at that time and because, since that time, this witness, in the course of a voyage, has seen a part of it and knows all these charts.

To the ninth question he replied that this witness and Juan de Solis went by command of Their Highnesses and discovered all the land which has been discovered until now from the island of Guanaxa to the province of Camarona ; following the coast toward the east is another province which is called Chabañin¹ and Pintigua, which this witness and Juan de Solis discovered and that likewise, in sailing along the coast, they discovered a large bay to which they gave the name Gran Baya de la Navidad and this witness discovered thence the sierras of Carya and other countries beyond and neither the aforesaid Don Cristoval Colon nor any other person for him reached these provinces.

To the tenth question he replied that he knows that that which the aforesaid Admiral discovered is separate from that which the others discovered who are mentioned in this question who went by command of Their Highnesses.

To the eleventh question he replied that that which he has said is the truth and he firmly maintains it and [he said] that it is the truth by the oath which he swore and he has signed it. The Licentiate Montenegro.— Vicente Añes. — Cristoval Matute, notary . . . The aforesaid witnesses having been heard and [their evidence] taken in the aforesaid manner, the aforesaid Comendador Ochoa de Ysasaga, in the name of the aforesaid, said that he wished to have what had been written as evidence and the aforesaid Deputy-Procurator ordered it to be given to him, signed with his name, and to be signed and sealed by me the aforesaid notary which was done and executed in the aforesaid city of Seville on the aforesaid days and in the aforesaid months of the aforesaid year of our Lord one thousand five hundred and thirteen.—The Licentiate Montenegro.

¹ The translation here is literal.

I, the aforesaid Cristoval de Matute, notary of our Lady the Queen and official notary of the aforesaid Deputy-Procurator Montenegro, have had this written and have seen the aforesaid Deputy-Procurator sign his name here and have affixed this my seal hereto in evidence that it is the truth.= Here there is a seal.= Christoval Matute, notary of Her Highness.

